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MOHAN LIANG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Selva discussed the convergence of military and diplomatic relations in the U.S.

Aramark workers rally for University support

By JUSTIN LI
Staff Writer

A crowd of 50 Hopkins undergraduates, graduates and Aramark employees gathered outside the President's office in Garland Hall last Friday to petition the Hopkins administration and to publicly pressure Aramark Catering to quickly negotiate a fair contract with

its employees.

"We stand in solidarity with Unite Here Local 7 workers in their fights for fair and justice labor contracts in Baltimore. We now ask Hopkins to do the same by supporting Aramark food service workers' fight for a fair contract," Robert Day, an English doctoral candidate at Hopkins and the chief organizer of the rally, said. He read these

remarks from a petition signed by 1,200 Hopkins students, staff and faculty.

In June 2010, after their contract had expired, Aramark employees were unable to negotiate with their company for a new contract. This was a result of an internal union conflict that led to Aramark not recognizing their union. After a group of students approached

former Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration James McGill about the situation, McGill sent a letter to Barbara Timm-Brock, vice president of Aramark, asking Aramark to resolve the situation as quickly as possible.

According to Day, the letter resulted in Aramark allowing the union to negotiate for a contract. SEE WORKER'S RALLY, PAGE A7

Clinton advisor Selva closes speaker series

By JULES SZANTON
Staff Writer

Lieutenant General and advisor to Hillary Clinton Paul Selva spoke Tuesday night to the Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS) about the organizational challenges the US faces in maintaining its leadership role on the world stage. A senior Air Force officer who works closely with top figures in the Obama Administration's State and Defense Departments, Selva promotes cooperation between two agencies with a history of friction.

Selva is an assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, America's top military advisor. However, most of Selva's time is spent in the State Department, where he serves as the top military advisor to Clinton, who is the current Secretary of State.

Selva noted the history of conflict between the State Department and the military, with the former historically supporting a more

multilateral foreign policy with a military force only as a last resort and the latter often supporting military force as the most practical solution to global challenges.

However, Selva claimed that the Obama Administration offered an historic departure from this general pattern, noting that Secretary of State Clinton and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates share a similar world view and a close personal relationship.

[We] have one of the few times in history where the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense share the same politico-military worldview.

— Paul Selva, Lieutenant General

"With Secretary Clinton and Secretary Gates, you have one of the few times in history where the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense share the same politico-military worldview," Selva said. Selva noted that rivalry between these two positions has historically led to the U.S. pursuing mutually conflicting military and diplomatic policies.

Selva made his case for cooperation between America's military and diplomatic elite the center of a broader argument that today's leaders must understand

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CAROLYN HAN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Though the event was originally planned to take place on the Beach, many of the same events still took place in Charles Commons.

DSAGA hosts first "Beach Day" event indoors

By VICTORIA SCORDATO
Layout Editor

The Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance (DSAGA) held its first ever "Beach Day" event this past Friday, though the event was forced to relocate indoors to the Charles Commons Ballroom due to rain.

The purpose of the event was twofold: to celebrate the hard work DSAGA members had put in all year and to raise awareness about the LGBT community on campus.

"[The event] was supposed to let people know that we do have LGBT resources and support on campus because a lot of times it's overlooked at Hopkins," DSAGA President

Patrick Armstrong said. "And it was also just to attract more people to DSAGA, both LGBT people and straight allies."

Despite having to hold the event inside, the group managed to incorporate many of the same activities they had planned for the Beach including a live performance from the student band Corporate Casual, tie dying and t-shirt decorating, henna tattoos, caricature drawings and free Ledo's Pizza and soda.

Armstrong did note that after the decision was made to relocate, a few of the other bands slated to perform dropped out.

In addition, due to lower than expected attendance, the drag show that was previously sup-

posed to conclude the event was cancelled.

Armstrong estimates that about 100 students stopped by over the course of the day, a lower number than originally anticipated, but a good turnout considering the conditions.

"I think given the circumstances it was very successful and I think it's definitely something we are going to try to do again next year for our awareness day," Armstrong said.

For the most part, members who attended agreed that the event was a success.

"I thought that they handled the fact that it got rained out really well," DSAGA member Audrey Zeldin said.

SEE BEACH DAY, PAGE A8

IAC hosts YouTube star David Choi to raise money for Japan relief efforts

By MAYA SILVER
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, The Inter-Asian Council (IAC) and Japanese Students International (JSI) held "An evening with David Choi," a concert to benefit the Japanese relief effort.

After the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami devastated Japan this past March, the IAC decided to re-dedicate the event, which was originally going to raise awareness for Hepatitis B. The resulting concert brought around 260 students to Bloomberg to support Japan and see David Choi, singer, songwriter and YouTube star, perform.

The event raised more than

\$400 which will be sent to the Japanese Red Cross. All guests were given an envelope at the door for monetary donations, and JSI sold wristbands for \$5. In addition, 10 percent of sales from David Choi merchandise, including T-shirts and CDs, were donated.

For \$5 more than the door price of \$10, audience members could buy a special meet-and-greet pass. The JSI also had a table for making cards for Japanese children. The cards will be sent to the Japanese Embassy in D.C.

"It's all going to the Japanese Red Cross, which is one of the largest humanitarian organizations around in the region affected by the earthquake," IAC

co-president Lester Kao said.

Senior Catherine Liow was hopeful that the donations from Hopkins will help in some way. "I think it'll help," she said. "I'm not familiar with how the donation process is going right now. I don't know how it's doing at Hopkins. I do know the overall situation, that Japan's not getting a lot of aid. I read about that. So I hope that Hopkins is a different story..."

The Hopkins Octopodes opened for Choi with a performance that included popular songs such as "Bad Romance" and "Break Even." However, Choi was the focus of the evening, and the reason many of the audience members attended.

SEE DAVID CHOI, PAGE A8



COURTESY OF DROKUCOM

Choi performed last Saturday to an enthusiastic crowd. The IAC raised over \$400.

Freshman class senator Gauri Wagle felt that those statistics went unreported because the campus was overall a safe place. "It comes down to a question of how safe people feel here," she said.

SARU believes the lack of reported sexual assaults could be deceiving. "One of the big barriers [is] a lack of knowledge about what sexual assault is, and feeling like it's their fault," Song said. "Hopkins is a safe campus, but sexual assaults happen everywhere. Hopkins isn't a special case."

A caption on the homepage of untillitszero.tumblr.com supported this claim, stating: "While we would love for this to be the case, we know it's not."

Song did not expect so many people to have posted on the blog already. "I'm actually really surprised that we've gotten as many

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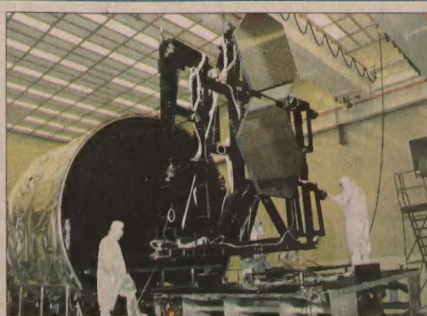
YOUR WEEKEND

Alumni to reconnect and return to campus this Friday through Sunday. Page B2



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Seniors raise money for class gift to Hopkins

Over \$13,000 already contributed to the endowment

By KUNAL AJMERA and
WANG JAE RHEE
Staff Writers

As the end of the academic year draws to a close, the campaign to raise money for the senior class gift is in full gear. The Seniors for The Hopkins Fund, the group in charge of the campaign, has received donations from 397 seniors, which amounts to \$13,641, as of last Monday.

Much of those donations were directed towards the Hopkins Fund, as per the encouragement of the group to do so.

The Hopkins Fund, according to senior class council president and member of the Senior Class Gift committee Josh Ayal, is one of the most versatile of funds, and thus donations to it ensure that they are going to where they are most needed.

The main goal of the campaign, according to senior class senator and campaign co-chair Max Dworin, is to have a 100 percent participation rate with each senior giving back at least \$20. So far, the proportion is in the mid 20 percent, and the seniors have up until graduation to have their donations count as a senior gift.

Last year, the participation rate was an all-time record of 45 percent.

Dworin was sure that that number could be beaten this year.

"I am very confident we will pass that this year since we are currently outpacing last year's campaign," he said.

He attributed the success of the campaign so far to the new strategies that have been employed.

"Our campaign has featured more communication tactics than past campaigns," Dworin said. "We have successfully combined social media with creative videos, events and personal touches in a way that I don't feel any other campaign has done. Past years' themes have played on movie titles or other prominent ad-campaigns, whereas our theme, I Heart Hopkins, ties directly into Hopkins," he said.

Another way in which this year's senior class gift differs from those in the past is that it is in the form of monetary donations.

"In the past, seniors have given concrete gifts like the blue jay stained glass window in the library," Dworin said.

The change was made in 2006 when the then senior class realized that the senior class gift could be of better use if it were given as a cash sum.

"Five years ago, we stopped having the senior gift [be] physical objects and switched to donations," Coordinator of Campus Programming Rachel Navarre said.

"Ever since this switch, The Hopkins Fund has usually been the first priority to donate to. We prefer it because it's guaranteed that what we donate goes back to the students here at Homewood."

Indeed, seniors have been encouraged to specifically donate to the Hopkins Fund, both in previous years and this year because it directly improves undergraduate life.

"The Hopkins Fund is certainly critical to a number of very important projects that directly affect nearly every student on this campus at some point or another," Ayal said in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

However, that doesn't mean that the seniors can only donate to the Hopkins Fund; in fact, they can donate to any student group, academic program or department they want.

"The Hopkins Fund is one fund that students can designate their donation to," Navarre said. "But any gift made to the University will count to the senior gift."

Seniors, including those in charge of organizing the senior class gift, were in general supportive of the idea of giving back to Hopkins as they left it.

"I find the notion of giving back to the Hopkins community compelling," Ayal said. "I consider myself lucky to have gotten so much from the community and I believe it's our responsibility as members of that community to give back in any way we can."

Seniors Michael Rosenzweig and Amanda Giorgio agreed.

"I don't think that the campaign has been effective, but I will probably donate to The Hopkins Fund because it's always good to feel like you're part of a community and giving back is a part of it," Giorgio said.

Echoing on the sentiment, Rosenzweig said that he had already made a donation because he wanted to give back for the good experiences he had at Hopkins.

"I donated because I could donate to a specific department, to the one that offered the class I enjoyed the most," Rosenzweig said.

Similarly, senior Sarah Gieszl considered her donation as a way of remembering Hopkins.

"I didn't get a class ring, so this might be my memento for my time at Hopkins," Gieszl said.

However, some seniors were more skeptical of the senior class gift.

Senior Andrew Wisneski believed that a few hundred dollars would not make a difference.

"We're just students and a donation of \$20 won't do much," Wisneski said. "I just don't foresee how \$20 from a couple hundred seniors will do much. It's a nice gesture, but it won't be meaningful in the long run. In the future, I would like to donate towards something more meaningful. \$20 isn't going to change anything."

Rosenzweig attributed the fact that the senior donations don't end up amounting to much to the low participation rate, which he in turn attributed to the fact that not everyone enjoys his time at Hopkins.

"Part of the reason they don't get as many senior donations as they want is because every senior is different," Rosenzweig said.

"In general, people have a wide range of opinions regarding their time at Hopkins, and for students who for one reason or another didn't enjoy their time here, the senior class gift is not a good way of giving back," he said.

On the other hand, Dworin, who is confident students have loved their time at Hopkins, says the committee has tried their best to constantly remind the senior class of what Hopkins meant to them.

"People should give back because it is an investment in the future of their soon-to-be alma mater," Dworin said.

"Donations can go a long way towards making the undergraduate experience better for future generations of Hopkins students, allowing students to enroll in the University regardless of their financial situation," he continued.

"Talking about adding value to one's degree, just a slight rise in both our young and overall alumni giving could increase our ranking and bring us into the top 10 of the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings," Dworin added. "Not to mention, being philanthropic makes one feel good. I know I have felt great about this whole experience and enjoyed making my gift. What better way to leave your legacy as a Hopkins alum by giving back with both time and money?"

Administration conducts senior exit interviews

By JUSTIN LI
Staff Writer

Student exit interviews are currently being scheduled and conducted by the Office of Enrollment and Academic Services. The 30-minute interviews are conducted by staff from several different administrative departments within Hopkins including Student Life and the Academic Dean's Offices. The interviews are conducted as informal conversations in which faculty members may gain qualitative insight into the student experience at Hopkins.

First started in 2003, the interviews were first proposed by Dean Connolly of Enrollment and Academic Services to contrast with the Senior Exit Survey. The Senior Exit Survey is a quantitative survey that covers an expansive range of topics including food, career and academic services by having graduating seniors rate each on a scale from one to five. The survey is conducted by the Consortium on Financing Higher Education (COFHE), an organization composed of 31 private liberal arts colleges and universities as part of its data collection research.

While the survey is useful, the University uses the senior exit interview to conduct more research.

"Seniors every year complete the senior survey, a quantitative survey with ratings... That's a very helpful tool," Connolly said. "[Hopkins] thought we would like to do qualitative research."

The interview is a smaller, less expansive research project conducted by the Hopkins administration to gain similar data qualitatively.

"They were conversations learning about the experience students had," Connolly said. "The good aspects, the not so good and where they thought the University could improve both social and academic."

According to the administration, student opinion of the project appears to be positive.

"The response by seniors has been terrific. It's somewhat of a tradition," Connolly said.

Coordinator of enrollment research Teresa Wonnell agreed. "Each successive class seems to be bit more positive," she said. "They notice the administration trying to improve student experience."

Because faculty conducts the interviews, the number of students that can be interviewed is limited by the number of participating faculty. At the beginning



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

of the project, it had the goal of interviewing 50 to 100 seniors. This year they have scheduled 240 and are currently halfway through conducting all the interviews.

"I knew a lot of seniors that did it last year," senior Mary Vitale said. "They said it was generally really good."

However, some students had not even heard of it.

"I've heard nothing about it. I don't know anybody that has done it," senior Max Wieder said.

To prevent scheduling more interviews than is possible, a few hundred students are randomly selected at a time to receive an invitation for an interview. After the number of responses from the first set dwindles, another set of randomly selected students is invited. The process repeats until the entire senior class has been invited.

There are no incentives for being interviewed. At the end of the interview, only token gifts are given such as windshield stickers and lapel pins.

Connolly described the interviews as a way for the administration to express their interest in hearing what seniors have to say.

"It's our way of expressing interest in hearing seniors as they reflect," Connolly said. "It's a nice way to bring closure. The criticisms are thoughtful and insightful."

Vitale thought the interview was helpful. "It was really good to reflect on my time at Hopkins and give feedback to the school," Vitale said.

After all the interviews are

conducted, the deadline being the last day of classes, the 30 or so interviewers gather together and sit and discuss what they have learned. Reports are not usually released or created about the findings, but nonetheless are still used by the administration.

"We go over the questions one by one. People start contributing what they've heard," Wonnell said. "People come up with ideas of what they've heard. It's a way to share information."

Since the project started, a few changes have been made. An online scheduling system was created in which students would go and select an interview time. Previously, interviewers would have to call each student in order to schedule an interview. As Dean Connolly explained, for faculty with assistive staff it was not a problem. However, for those without, it was very difficult. Jean Free, executive assistant to Dean Connolly, is currently in charge of managing the online system and several other logistical factors of the project.

Additionally, in 2006 the interviews were expanded to include the Whiting School. Previously it only encompasses the Krieger School.

However, the questions asked have not significantly changed.

"We ask about academically what have been the highlights, social experience highlights, the not so good about it; we ask about what skills have been enhanced; we ask how would you describe Hopkins to prospective students; what advice would

you give to freshmen; what has disappointed you; and suggestions on things to change," Wonnell said.

The project has produced several tangible changes; for example, past interviews resulted in the B'more Intersession program.

"We need to do more in the freshmen year to orient students to Baltimore and what's available in the city," Connolly said. "The B'more program was a direct consequence of the senior interview."

The project also exposed to the administration what students like about Hopkins.

"One question we asked is what would you like [to] not change about Hopkins. A lot of [seniors said] to [not] change the academic integrity and rigor of Hopkins," Connolly said. "Yes, in some cases they had to study harder than maybe friends at other schools. [However,] they really valued the quality of the academic program."

"The quality of their interaction over the four years with faculty was a signature experience," Connolly said. "As [students] moved through their time here, they really developed and nurtured wonderful relationships with faculty. That reinforces that behavior among faculty [that] connecting with undergraduates is a positive thing."

The interviews are also a positive experience for interviewers.

"It's one of the ways we get to interact with students directly. Everyone enjoys the different way of engaging with students," Wonnell said.

Austan Goolsbee speaks to students about Obama's budget

By ALLISON BORKO
Staff Writer

Austan Goolsbee, the 26th Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers in the Obama Administration and Professor of Economics at University of Chicago, met with President Obama in California to discuss Obama's recent budget proposals. Goolsbee explained the President's policies on a live stream aimed to attract college students. He focused on the effect these budget cuts would have on the American public, most specifically the college-aged generation. He then took calls from college students and answered their questions to discuss why young Americans should be concerned about the budget and the national deficit.

First, Goolsbee highlighted what he considered the three most important aspects of Obama's plan. Firstly, round tables are important to generate new ideas so we must encourage people to brainstorm and foster plans for the future. Secondly, under a fiscally responsible plan, while we are living within our means, some aspects of society need to be protected and are too important to cut the budgets for. Thirdly, a clear plan to live responsibly within our means will stop us from mortgaging the future and passing on our debt to future generations.

There are two ways to mortgage the future. "You can leave bills to the next generation to pay or you cannot make key investments in their education, infrastructure, training — investment in industries of future," he said.

With regards to investing in the future, the aforementioned



Goolsbee, who is an economic advisor to Obama, spoke to students in a conference call.

round tables help Obama identify the aspects of American life that are too crucial to be cut and need to be protected. "Education, innovation and investment are the three areas we can't afford to sacrifice," Goolsbee said. When asked by a calling-in student how the budget would affect young people, he focused on education. "We must invest in educating young people," he said. "If there are large cuts to discretionary spending, there will be significant direct cuts to education spending for college students, graduate students and even for K-12 schools."

He further explained that if Obama cuts the \$9 million of financial aid in the middle of the year, the majority of those students will have to drop out of school. In the long run, there will be substantially less economic activity for America. This will cause the government to have less money because these dropouts will make less money and pay fewer taxes. Additionally, he

explained that we must invest in clean energy and continue research and development in this field. This innovation and investment will benefit us in the long run as well. He predicts this industry will offer many jobs and profits in the future, so Obama is trying to nourish this growing industry now. "We are simply protecting our priorities," Goolsbee said.

The third aspect of Obama's plan addresses his goal for us to live responsibly within our means by creating a new budget. "Obama will cut discretionary spending to a level that hasn't been reached since Eisenhower's presidency," Goolsbee said. Obama has a \$4 trillion deficit reduction plan over the next 10-12 years. This plan will preserve the President's aforementioned priorities, such as education, while cutting out entitlement, defense and discretionary funds and making the high income tax rates what they were under President

Clinton. In response to a student question, Goolsbee explained how Obama tried to balance the interests of the Republicans, who want to make budget cuts, and the Democrats, who want to use government programs to stimulate the economy. He responded that the President has appeal to a middle ground in his deficit reduction program. "He made sure not to cut anything that would undermine the future agenda and existence of basic social combat in the nation," Goolsbee said.

As an example, Goolsbee explained that the government isn't going to abolish Medicare and turn senior citizens over to private insurance companies. At the same time, he also explained that Obama could not please the Republicans' desire for high income tax cuts because this will add another \$2 trillion to our deficit, making it a total of \$6 trillion. "This will reduce significantly the burden on young people what they will be paying over the next 30 years," he said.

Goolsbee's description of Obama's plan was a clear and concise explanation that broke down Obama's ideas into simpler terms. "It was nice to have someone explain politics in a clear way because I did not feel like I was being tricked or sold anything," freshman Kara Deppe said. His question and answer session was also a nice clarifying technique for some of the more complicated issues. "I listened to a recorded version of the live stream. I wish I had listened live so I could have called in and asked questions. That seems like such a good feature and really made the whole experience personal and catered to the individual student listener," Deppe said.

Donations can go a long way towards making the undergraduate experience better for future generations.

— MAX DWORIN,
SENIOR CLASS SENATOR

NEWS & FEATURES

Alexander Hamilton Society hosts debate on future of American power

By **FAWAZ AHMED**
Staff Writer

The Alexander Hamilton Society (AHS) hosted a debate on the "Future of American Power" last Thursday in Levering Hall. The new campus group, which focuses on debating contemporary issues, hosted the event pitting Robert J. Leiber, professor of government and international affairs at Georgetown University against David Kanin, adjunct professor of European studies at the School of Advanced International Relations and former CIA analyst on a debate about the United States's ability to protect its interests in a world in which it is increasingly facing challenges over influence.

Kanin set the tone immediately at the start of his speech by making it clear that his arguments weren't going to be about the imperial decline of America as a world power, or even the rise of new leadership in the world.

He was arguing, he emphasized, that in the future the United States will no longer be able to act unilaterally on issues or make diplomatic mistakes.

"Permanently changing circumstances are constraining America's margin for error," Kanin said. "It's not the question of whether the United States is in decline; it's just that we no longer have as much of a margin for error."

Explaining his position further, he described how the relative isolation enjoyed by the United States in its early years protected it from the blunt force of international conflict. To illustrate the importance of this, Kanin referred to the World Wars. "We were lucky enough to be left untouched twice in wars that destroyed

most of the rest of the world. We will never have those conditions again," he said.

"Also, the abundance of cheap

off, sources of cheap labor are bound to dry up. Additionally, it is no longer possible to remain detached from the rest of the world," he said.

"We were able to develop our power basically unchallenged. Now not only is the world economy much more interconnected, but our own economic activity is much more intertwined with the rest of the world," Kanin said while pointing out that economic isolationism is no longer an option.

Kanin repeatedly reiterated what he thought was one of America's strongest traits — the vision of the United States as a benevolent power. "If [other countries] start thinking that the Americans don't always know what they're doing . . . that spells trouble," he said, while suggesting that recent events in the Middle East — with countries that were formally under the umbrella of America's clout shaking off its influence — could portend such a scenario.

He added that America needs to learn how to work with other countries. "That's something that will have to change," he said.

Professor Leiber countered Kanin by noting that the current wave of "declinism" was nothing new and that the kinds of conditions stated by Kanin were not dissimilar from what has been said before. "We're living through the fifth or sixth wave of declinism since 1957," he said, listing several examples from history to support his argument, including the launch of the first satellite. "After the launch of Sputnik, everyone was afraid that the Soviets were more disciplined. They didn't waste their time and energy on new brands of toothpaste or rock music. They graduated more engineers. Our math and science education was inadequate." All these fears, he

noted, proved to be unfounded. Similar fears remain at the top of the media agenda today — concerns he dismissed as likely to be defeated because of the fundamental strengths of the United States's power.

Kanin responded to this suggestion by asserting that his fundamental argument — that America's margin for error is limited in an era where its share of the world's power is diluted — didn't require that its power necessarily declined, just that a world exists where power is more evenly distributed.

Playing down the idea that American decline is inevitable, he quoted statistics regarding the share of US Gross Domestic product as part of world GDP. Referencing official government statistics, he said that since the fall in the United States's share only declined by around three percent since 1980, it was not apparent that the United States is losing its leadership in the world economy.

He also de-emphasized the notion that the United States was preeminently powerful during the last century. Quoting thinkers during previous crises of confidence in America's power — including Japan's rise in the 1980s, the Korean War and September 11 among others — he built up the argument that American leadership doesn't necessarily imply American invulnerability.

He ultimately remained confident of the country's position. "The United States is one of the only countries with the resources, flexibility and adaptability which are unprecedented for a country of our size," he said. Highlighting that the US was unique in that it is the only large country to remain at the top of the league tables for competitiveness, he mentioned several institutions that enabled the US to remain a major force in world affairs.

"Ours is the one country in the world that is both big and rich. Our resources remain unique. Our great research universities are an asset that no other country in the world possesses." For all these reasons, he said, "[American] decline is not

baked in the cake."

Though not all of Kanin's arguments were addressed in the rebuttal, the event was very informative and both participants agreed in principle on the importance of the AHS's mission. "What you are doing is very important. There is a pressing need to encourage people to think broadly and deeply about American foreign policy," Leiber said.

The AHS began this semester with the goal of diversifying foreign policy discussion at Hopkins. According to a document released by the AHS, foreign policy discussion has been dominated by liberal internationalist policy for the last several years. To counter this, the AHS plans to host debates that feature conservative foreign policy thinkers.

"Our goal is to promote foreign policy and intellectual discussion," freshman Ari Schaffer, recruitment chair, said, explaining that the group will continue to host other events on campus designed to foster intellectual discussion pertaining to American foreign policy issues.

The organizers were happy with the turnout. "I think it was a good turnout, especially for our first event. We had some very good questions at the end, and it was a great debate," Schaffer said, before adding, "Giving free food always helps."

Alexander Alden, a Ph.D. student in the political science department and an advisor to the Hopkins chapter of the AHS said that the society was created to expose students to issues of national importance. "It is an attempt to bring the mainstream debate in Washington D.C. about policy issues to campus," he said.

The audience generally agreed that the event was very timely. "It was very relevant to what we're learning, and declinism is a major trend in American politics right now," junior International Studies major Alice Laws said.

Junior Megan Siebolt agreed. "I enjoyed it. It was [an] interesting perspective from two different sides on America's place in the world and where we're going."

Krav Maga club started by Hopkins students

By **BARBARA LAM**
Copy Editor

Earlier this year, Leanne Gossels asked fellow freshman Craig Bohrsen if he wanted to train Krav Maga with her at Krav Maga Maryland, an organization that teaches the self-defense system in locations all over Baltimore.

Although interested in continuing his training — Bohrsen has some background knowledge of Krav Maga from his hometown in Manchester, England — he was faced with the difficulty of getting to the facility, which was in Owings Mills. "[Gossels] recommended this place if I wanted to train, said it was the best she could find," Bohrsen said.

"I thought it was a long drive so I recommended we try to get them to come here instead. Start a club. That's how it all began." Gossels and Bohrsen are now co-presidents of a promising Hopkins Krav Maga club.

Bohrson trained in Krav Maga for a little over a year back in England, but has an extensive history with Karate. "Before [Krav Maga], I trained in Shotokan Karate for a very long time, since I was 10 or 11 maybe. I had gotten my black belt, but [felt that] it wasn't all that useful," he said.

Attaining his black belt was a great achievement for him, but didn't lead to the kind of confidence in defense that he thought it would. "Black belt had always been this on the horizon thing. Mythical in a sense. This point that, if you reached it, it would guarantee you ultimate protection in any situation. That never really happened."

He went on to say how many martial arts are anachronistic, as he described it, in the sense that they were developed a long time ago for different situations. Although the art has been preserved, instructors are teaching some moves that are no longer applicable. "They were designed to be trained for hours and hours every day in ancient times when threats were different," Bohrsen said.

He explained how outdated martial arts teach non-instinctual movements that take an immense amount of time to master — and even when mastered, there are the accompanying honor systems that can prevent full defense. Krav Maga can be learned in a much shorter amount of time.

"I started with absolutely no prior fighting experience and in less than a year of official training [I] can confidently defend myself," Gossels wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

Krav Maga solves many problems of other martial arts and more, offering a survival- and instincts-based training that uses modern weapons and realistic encounters and encourages trainees to prioritize their safety above all else. "In a life or death situation, survival should be your main priority . . . and Krav Maga's central belief really is, to make that happen, you should do anything. So whereas in Karate

you'll practice striking the face or solar plexis, in Krav Maga you train to hit the groin, kick out the knees, attack the eyes," Bohrsen said.

Krav Maga, which translates literally to "hand-to-hand combat" from Hebrew, is the official self-defense system taught to the Israeli Defense Forces.

It was developed as a mixture of street fighting techniques and other martial arts in order to form a more modern and applicable system of self-defense. The original founder is recognized to be Imrich "Imi" Lichtenfeld, who was born in 1910 in Budapest and went on to develop Krav Maga in Czechoslovakia in the '30s to defend himself against anti-Semitic street gangs. In the '40s when Lichtenfeld moved to Israel, he brought the fighting style to the Israeli Defense Forces, which now incorporates Krav Maga as part of its basic training.

Today, it's taught in all kinds of law enforcement agencies all over the world as a practical method of training. "I think it's illustrative that most militaries and police forces teach either Krav Maga or something closely similar," Bohrsen said, emphasizing the effectiveness of the system. Krav Maga Maryland describes the system as "a unique combination of high intensity training . . . instinctive moves, practical techniques and realistic training scenarios that provide students the tools they need to

protect themselves in a minimal amount of time."

Eager to start training, Bohrsen and Gossels personally contacted Krav Maga Maryland and successfully got trainer Jeff

Mount, who works in the Owings Mills facility, to come to Hopkins and teach students himself. While classes are free to all students at the moment, the bulk of the club's funding goes to bringing the organization to campus. Most of the other martial arts clubs on campus have instructors who come and teach voluntarily, so Bohrsen and Gossels's biggest challenge has been trying to make sure that future classes remain affordable for students.

"The classes right now cost no money for students. But next year we're going to try to get the classes down to \$10 a week. That would be for two two-hour classes [per week]," Bohrsen said. He explains that while the need to pay isn't an optimal situation, it's a relatively low rate and he's thankful that the club has secured well-trained and experienced professionals.

"They're very good," Bohrsen said. "I have taken other martial arts classes at Hopkins and . . . I think Krav Maga has been the best so far. Three instructors came." The instructors at the first session were Jeff, Curt and Ryan, all from Krav Maga Maryland. "They brought lots of equipment and it was a very intense and very useful training session."

In the future, Bohrsen and Gos-

sels hope to master Krav Maga to the point where they can teach basic classes themselves for free.

Cost aside, response on campus to the newly formed club has been positive. Bohrsen cites upwards of 60 people on the mailing list, over 40 at the information session, which was held only a few weeks ago, and about 20 at the first training session. Bohrsen and Gossels were happy with the turnout, which was surprisingly large considering the short amount of time the club was able to devote to advertising.

"We had two weeks notice for the information meeting. We only started advertising the Monday of the week of the first training session because we made plans with Krav Maga Maryland that Sunday," Bohrsen said. At the first session, students — Bohrsen and Gossels happily report that both females and males were present — practiced "aggression" and participated in a lot of shouting and core training. They also delved right into specific defense moves, including responses to choke holds from the front and back.

The club is eager to attract more students though, which will help lower costs, and wants to emphasize the usefulness of the practice as well as the fact that the sessions are geared towards beginners. "[It] is actually designed for people with no previous training," Gossels wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

The club plans to hold another training session today in the ROTC Gym from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and expects a good turnout. Sessions are open to any interested students. If the participants are eager to continue training as the semester winds down, Bohrsen and Gossels will offer an additional class the following week. Next year, the club has plans to hold training twice a week, two hours per session. "I think it will be very popular here," Bohrsen said. "We fill a unique niche on campus."

The club has other plans outside of training students. "We also hope to incorporate some public seminars in self defense," Gossels wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*. "[We want to] spread awareness and training as far into our community as possible."

On a campus that lacks regular self-defense training classes — sometimes classes are held, but only for a month, or only for women — Krav Maga is bound to find both a group of dedicated trainees and students eager to learn the basic techniques of self-defense.

Both Bohrsen and Gossels have met participants in facilities outside of school who were driven to train because they experienced a situation in which their safety was threatened.

"The things you will learn have actually saved people I know personally," Gossels wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*. Whether that holds true for participants at Hopkins or not, she's positive that many students will come and train in order to be prepared. "We live in Baltimore, and as with any city, there are certain dangers involved," she continued. Even on campus, students can only feel safer with a few self-defense moves on hand.



COURTESY OF FAWAZ AHMED
AHS President Morgan Hitzig presents the debate participants at the event.



CAROLYN HAN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Jason Chen performs for the audience at the Annual TASA Night Market, which took place at the Mattin Center on April 23.

Annual TASA Night Market yields large turnout

By **RACHEL WITKIN**
News & Features Editor

The Taiwanese American Student Association (TASA) held their annual Night Market in the Mattin Center last Saturday. The market focused on collaboration this year, working with Japanese Student International (JSI), the Korean Student Association (KSA) and the Chinese Student Association (CSA).

The Night Market is TASA's biggest event of the year and takes a lot of work. TASA started planning for the market at the beginning of the year.

"We put a lot of effort into it," senior TASA Co-President Charles Wang said. "The weeks leading up to it were very busy."

Its goal is to expose students to Taiwanese culture and allow them to experience what a "night market" in Taiwan might be like.

"At night markets, there would be a lot of vendor food, so that's what we tried to recreate," senior Co-President Stephanie Lin said.

Since food is a large part of the Taiwanese culture, there was a myriad of treats at the event, including fried rice, noodles, scallion pancakes, fried egg pancakes, bubble tea and shaved ice. Most of the food was homemade.

"Food is obviously a really a

big part of the Taiwanese culture. It's actually our biggest, I think," Lin said. "We tried to get pretty traditional dishes that everyone would eat. We had two meat tables and a vegetarian dish."

Freshman Becky Sturner enjoyed the variety of food available.

"[The market] is really cool, it looks really impressive and the food's great," she said.

However, freshman Jess Strull thought that the market could have been organized better.

"I thought the food was really good, but I think the setup could have been a little better. All the plates were just at one of the food stations, so there was a really long line there," she said.

She did enjoy the food and the atmosphere, though. "It was fun to go around to all the different vendors and see the food that they had," she said.

TASA also brought in famous YouTube performer Jason Chen, who they think contributed to the large turnout at the market.

"We know that he has a lot of fans here, so that's probably why there was such a huge turnout," Lin said. "It's bigger than last year's, for sure."

Wang estimates that about 250 students showed up throughout the afternoon. There were many booths for students to explore,

including a booth run by the JSI to raise money for Japanese relief.

Tzu Chi, a Taiwanese volunteer organization that does relief efforts around the world, had a booth as well.

"We brought them in to explain what they do, and talk about how to go green and recycle," Wang said.

"They are a nation wide group and they are also a Chinese school," freshman TASA representative Jasmine Wang said. "They raise a lot of money for events like this and send volunteers over to Taiwan."

CSA and KSA did not set up any booths, though they did help out with the event. Along with the booths, there were many traditional games available for students to play as well.

Overall, TASA felt that the market went very well, though it had to be moved indoors because of the threat of rain.

"We thought it was going to rain all day, otherwise we would have had it outside," Lin said.

The co-presidents would have liked to get more SAC funding for the event, but they were very pleased with the student turnout.

"It [was] a good time for everyone to enjoy free food and entertainment, and to try and learn a little more about the Taiwanese culture," Lin said.

Investigating paranormal activity: Seeking out the supernatural in Baltimore

By **MICHAEL NAKAN**
News & Features Editor

In December 1975, George and Kathy Lutz moved into a large house in Amityville, Long Island with their three children. Less than a month later, they fled from the house in a rush, leaving all their possessions behind. Throughout their brief stay there, they saw objects levitate, walls bleed and family members transform before their eyes.

The last night in the house they attempted an exorcism. Family members have subsequently refused to describe what followed the home-grown religious procedure, describing the events as “too frightening.”

The Lutz’s story entered mainstream culture when a popular book (*The Amityville Horror: A True Story*) and the subsequent film were released based on their experiences. Throughout the decades since publication, critics have repeatedly slammed the validity of the paranormal aspects of this “true story.”

But Metropolitan Archbishop Daniel Romanos, a resident of Hopkins-owned apartment housing in Charles Village, is a true believer.

“Most of the things that you see on the screen actually occur,” he said. “Just not all at once in the same place.”

Romanos is a skinny man with a long gray beard with patches of color which flow into a goatee. His hair is done up in a long pigtail which snakes down the back of his shirt. He dresses in all black with the white of a priest’s collar poking out at the bottom of his neck.

Growing up in Greek City, Baltimore, Romanos saw “flashes” — of people, of ghosts, of spirits.

“I believe children are more attuned to spiritual things,” he said. “When we get older, we convince ourselves that nothing is there so no one will think we’re crazy.”

His interest in the occult only intensified after his mother took him to see Dr. Hans Holzer, an Austrian born paranormal researcher who served as a formal investigator on the Amityville case.

Later interactions with television documentaries (including *In Search of . . .* hosted by Leonard Nimoy) and magazine articles cemented his interest in the supernatural.

He says he graduated from high school early (he was only 15) and started Gargoyles Paranormal Investigations in 1984 — it has been running ever since.

“The mid 1980s was a time

when there was a lot of talk about teenage satanic cults. So I was very active,” he said. “I would attempt to give my so-called ‘expertise’ on the matter — which was more, in that time, than strictly supernatural. More along the lines of cults, graffiti on churches, that sort of thing.”

Today, he is investigating the case of the “Mysterious Musician,” a friendly ghost (although he is quick to disassociate it from Caspar) who has been known to play the piano at the Baltimore Theatre Project, a fringe theatre located on 45 West Preston Street.

He begins by noting that the large warehouse building which has been revamped for theater use was once the headquarters for a chapter of the Improved Order of Heptasophs (IOH), a fraternal organization from the early 19th century.

“There would have been a man with a sword at the entrance,” Romanos said. “And as I understand it, the initiation sequences were pretty extreme.”

Stained glass windows emblazoned with IOH acronyms still line the theatre, and the letters IOH are literally built into the ceiling, above the catwalk.

Romanos asks an official a few questions regarding the alleged spirit: Are there any unusual cold spots? Any reports of objects moving or levitating? Has anyone ever been murdered violently on the premises?

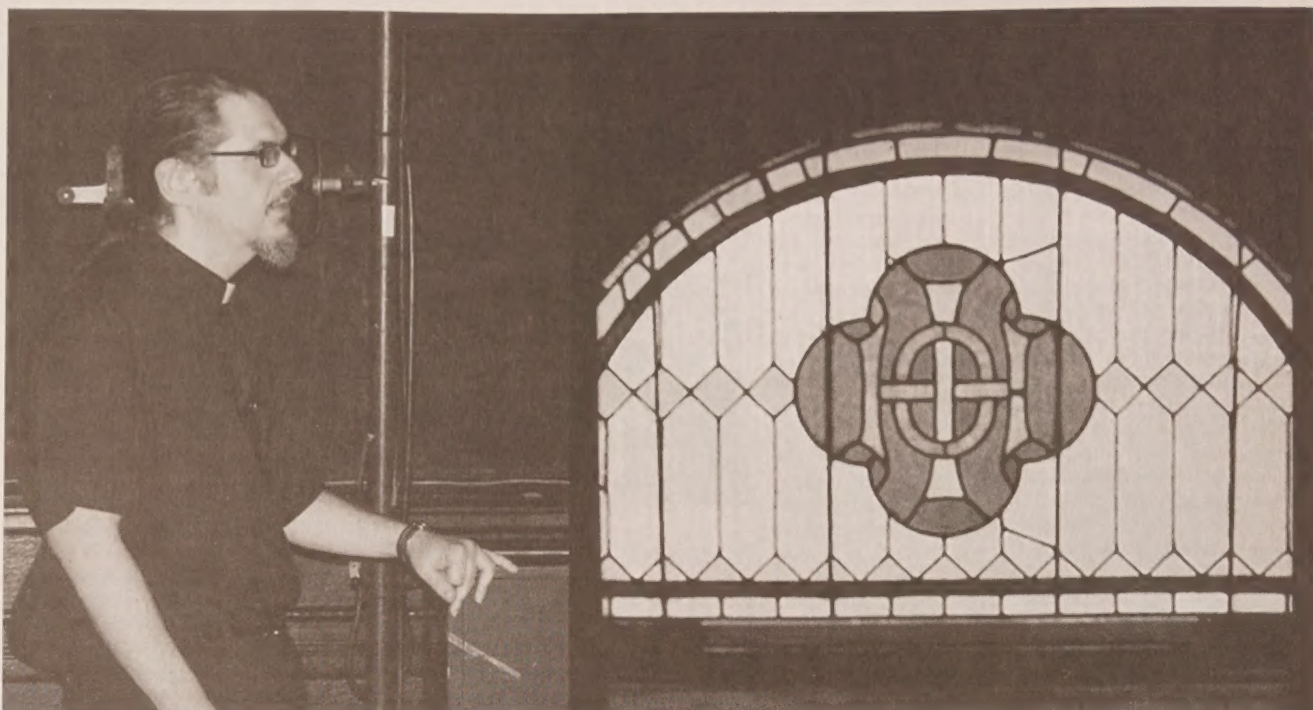
After a steady series of “no’s” from the skeptical tour guide, Romanos sets about investigating the piano which reportedly is still visited by a musician from the early 1920s.

For the most part, Romanos eschews modern ghost hunting equipment, the likes of which can be seen on Ghost Hunters or other, more mainstream, ghost hunting media.

“I prefer to keep it spiritual, to reach out with my hands and my soul,” he said.

The last person who heard the Mysterious Musician play left the theatre in 2000. Romanos inspects the piano, feeling for cold spots and trying to spiritually “feel” the presence of a supernatural force. Despite saying that he had the distinct impression of something “off” as he walked into the room housing the piano, Romanos eventually concludes, given the lack of spiritual or physical indicators and the sheer length of time since the last sighting, that this spirit had moved on to the “other side.”

Today, Romanos knew that the spirit would be benign. When he suspects the spirit might be



Archbishop Daniel Romanos (left) lives in Charles Village and runs Gargoyle’s Paranormal Investigations. The insignia of the Improved Order of Heptasophs is pictured on right.

hostile, he comes prepared.

“When it is a negative entity I am called to deal with, I bring a few items,” he said. “Holy water, anointing oil and crucifix, things of that sort.”

And, according to Romanos, some of the legends surrounding ghosts and demonic spirits are devastatingly true.

“Since I have become a priest of my church, I have been called in on cases of very negative entities and things that have required — or I believe required — an exorcism,” he said. “I had a case a few years ago where a lamp levitated a full three feet off of a table and threw itself at my head — and a lady who was there with me turned and told me: ‘It doesn’t like you.’”

When an alleged negative force invades a house (be they the spirits of deceased humans or demonic entities), Romanos turns to the writings of St. Basil the Great, who was a saint of the Greek Church and is recognized by the Roman-Catholic Church.

“[St. Basil] wrote prayers of exorcism and I [chant them],” he said. “An exorcism is just a prayer, a call to God to free the person or the building or whatever from the negative entities which are inhabiting it.”

The Mother Virgin Mary is the strongest force to call upon against negative entities, according to Romanos, and the most dangerous type of spiritual infestation is that of a demon from another plane of existence.

“Demonic spirits, I believe

from my experience, are more likely to constantly torture a person in various ways, in a form of spiritual-psychological warfare, you may say,” he said. “But actual possession does occur.”

“There are a few cases where [a person] is beyond repair — when a person is what we call ‘perfectly possessed,’” he said. “That’s a person who has willingly and completely invited demonic spirits into their body. This can happen to a person who is spiritually Satanist or [a] Devil Worshipper, or someone who wanted to sell their soul — and that is the only case where I believe a person could not be saved.”

“I believe that Adolf Hitler was perfectly possessed.”

Romanos draws many of his

beliefs from the Book of Enoch, a non-canonical scripture from about 300 BCE.

“Its revelations were a bit too much for most people to take,” he said. “The fallen angels themselves actually came down to earth and married human women. Perhaps one of the reasons that angels fell is because they wanted to experience things that human beings experiences — and they’ve found cases of demonic spirits that prey sexually on human beings.”

But if demonic possession is possible, as Romanos asserts it is, then is our entire world at risk from an “invasion” from another plane of existence?

“It’s definitely possible. The prophecy of Enoch is that the

fallen angels will return to Earth one day,” he said. “I’m not a fundamentalist and don’t take it all literally, but spiritually I’d say it’s very possible.”

“There have been times in history when there were wars or other tragic events when evil has really been wholesale — and then I believe that could be a time when there could be an invasion, so to speak.”

Perhaps there will be an invasion one day, but it isn’t today — and after Romanos finishes his investigation, he leaves the Baltimore Theatre Project.

“My church takes up most of my time,” he said. “But Gargoyle’s Paranormal Investigations will continue to accept cases.”

Ex-professor passes away from heart failure

Accomplished physics scholar dies after 44 years at Hopkins

By **KATHERINE SIMEON**
Staff Writer

Thomas Fulton, the retired professor considered to be the father of high-energy physics at Hopkins, passed away on April 8 in Ruxton, Md.

He died due to heart failure.

Fulton was born Tomas Feuerzeug in Budapest in the early 1900s. He emigrated from Hungary to Spain in 1941 to escape the Nazis during World War II. From there, he borrowed one hundred dollars to buy three boat tickets to Cuba.

He left for New York City soon after, changing his name to Thomas Fulton upon arrival.

Fulton studied at Stuyvesant High School and went on to receive a bachelor’s degree, a master’s degree and a doctorate in physics from Harvard University.

After earning his doctorate, Fulton worked at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study

under the wing of J. Robert Oppenheimer, developer of the atomic bomb.

While at Princeton, Fulton received the opportunity to have an hour-long private meeting with world renowned scientist Albert Einstein in the fall of 1954.

Fulton had requested the meeting and wrote in his (as of yet unpublished) memoir about Einstein’s flowing white hair. He also references Einstein’s number-filled blackboard in his office; Einstein was attempting to construct a unified theory of gravitation and electromagnetism.

Fulton moved to Baltimore in 1956 to work as a physics professor at Hopkins.

He first served as an assistant professor and then a full professor at Hopkins until his retirement in 2000.

He did extensive work at Hopkins in particle physics and atomic physics.

He brought expertise in the area of high-energy physics, which hitherto was fairly obscure at Hopkins.

Additionally, he was highly involved in university service; he was a member of the academic counsel.

He was a fellow of the American Physical Society and was awarded a Simon Guggenheim Fellowship.

“He played an important role in the early development of the department working in particle physics, which grew in the ‘50s and ‘60s,” Professor Daniel Reich from the Department of Physics and Astronomy said. “He made a significant contribution in a number of science areas.”

In 1952, Fulton married Babette Pilzer. They have two daughters.

His wife passed away in 2006. He is survived by his daughters Judy Fulton and Ruth Kiselewich of Baltimore, as well as four grandchildren.

Hopkins in 300 Words

Starbucks Cafe, Barnes and Noble, Monday, 1:20 PM

By **FLORENCE LAU**
Your Weekend Editor

The line going to the counter is not as long as I would have expected for a typically busy lunch hour, but I suppose most people already got their caffeine fix for the day. Two girls are chattering away in Japanese at the table in front of me; their voices are the loudest sounds in the area. Most of the tables are taken despite the few customers in line. A giant stuffed germ, representing the common cold, is perched on top of the small fridge showcasing Naked smoothies on the counter. Suddenly, a roaring sound rips through the air as a barista blends coffee and chocolate and ice to make a frappuccino (or one of the other thousand drinks they offer).

From my seat, I can see the nearly empty Barnes and Noble. Several people are wandering, peering at the books and college paraphernalia on display. But for the most part, they have other matters to attend to on a Monday afternoon. Two Barnes and Noble employees are standing on the stairs, intently discussing something. After a minute, they part, one going back up-




MICHAEL NAKAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

stairs and the other continuing down to the first level.

The door behind me slams as people come in and out after getting their coffee. It is chilly in here, a direct contrast to the 80-degree weather outside. One would think that people would be sitting outside due to the nice weather, but the seats outside the window are for the most part

empty. The baristas chat, their voices carrying, as they wait for their next customer. From so far away, though, it is difficult to distinguish the individual words they are saying.

The vanilla iced soy latte I ordered is beginning to melt, the ice blending into the coffee and making the bitter taste watery.

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NEWS & FEATURES

Hopkins Briefs

\$2.2 Million donation to SAIS

The Hassenfeld Family Foundation has donated \$2.2 million to SAIS as part of an effort to promote cooperation between international students and to promote the joint SAIS and Nanjing master's program. The donation will allow international graduate students from China, America and other countries to work together on innovative projects. The foundation will provide financial support for 40 master's students over the next five years and three to five fellows a year thereafter. In addition, there will be an annual competition for teams of international students to develop innovative, sustainable projects that address a social need.

Hopkins hosts "Stress and Brain" Conference

Today and tomorrow, April 28 and 29, Hopkins is hosting a national conference on "Stress and the Brain," which will involve lectures by leaders in the field. The summit is geared towards professionals in education and public health as well as other practitioners. The conference begins with a lecture by Sir Michael Rutter at Hodson Hall in Homewood on Thursday, and continues with three panels about stress research on Friday at the East Baltimore campus.

Hopkins develops diabetic health program

Hopkins researchers have developed a program that successfully teaches low-income diabetics to improve their health. The study, led by Felicia Hill-Briggs, recruited 56 people to partici-

pate in either a course that taught problem-solving skills for managing the medical, financial, social and other aspects of diabetes, or no course (as the control group). The program was designed to address factors that prevent low-income diabetics from living a health lifestyle like availability and expense of healthy food as well as obstacles due to family or neighborhood. Participants in the course had significantly lower blood sugar in the long term as measured by hemoglobin A1C levels three months after the end of the course.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JHU GAZETTE

Former Hopkins medical director passes away

John W. Griffin, the founding director of the Johns Hopkins Brain Institute and former director of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's Department of Neurology, died on April 16 at the age of 69. He passed away after a struggle with bladder cancer. From Nebraska, Griffin graduated from Grinnell College in 1963 and got his medical degree from Stanford University in 1968. Griffin came to Hopkins as a neurology resident in 1970, and became head of the School of Medicine's Department of Neurology and neurologist in chief of The Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1999. He left his position this past month. He is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters-in-law and one granddaughter.

College Briefs

Rutgersfest cancelled after incidents of violence

Rutgers University President Richard McCormick has cancelled Rutgersfest, an annual tradition that has been part of the Rutgers community for decades. The event is comparable to Hopkins's Spring Fair. On the first night of Rutgersfest, April 15, four people were shot, one was assaulted and 11 were arrested. The festivities that night were attended by more than 40,000 people. Although there was an increased security presence at the event, it could not control the incidents, and shootings continued from midnight to 4 a.m. on Saturday morning. No fatal injuries resulted from the event.

President-elect of American College of Surgeons resigns amid complaints

Lazar J. Greenfield has resigned from his position as president-elect of the American College of Surgeons last Sunday. The resignation was prompted by complaints that related to his Valentine's Day editorial in the *in Surgery News* that some found offensive. According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, his editorial "touted 'the benefits of semen contact' for women." Greenfield will remain a professor emeritus of surgery at the University of Michigan Medical School.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS



COURTESY OF HUBCITYSTUDENT.COM

NYU summer faculty members win better pay and benefits

2,400 NYU adjunct faculty members have recently won better pay and benefits for summer work. As a result of tense negotiations, the new agreement requires all adjunct faculty members' pay to rise by the same dollar amount. Since adjunct faculty that teach classes for credit are paid more than those that teach non-credit classes, the pay raise will amount to a greater percentage increase for the latter. In addition, the agreement gives faculty that work over the summer health insurance, job security and retirement benefits.

Arizona campus gun bill vetoed

A bill proposed by the Arizona legislature would allow people to carry guns in public rights of way on public college and university campuses. The bill was vetoed by Arizona governor Jan Brewer, who did not explain her decision immediately. The bill originally would have permitted guns inside campus buildings, but was scaled back prior to Brewer's veto.

City Briefs

Power outage causes major sewage spill

Last Saturday, a power outage at the Baltimore wastewater treatment facility caused 20,000 gallons of sewage to flow into the outer harbor. An additional 20,000 gallons spilled on site at the Patapsco Wastewater Treatment Plant. The spill was caused by a power outage from 4:55 p.m. to 5:35 p.m. combined with a temporary disruption to back up power. Officials suspect that the power outage was triggered by Saturday's storm. The Department of Public Works is conducting further investigations of the spill.

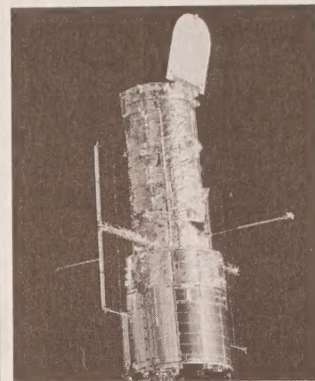


PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA.GOV

Hubble Space Telescope celebrates 21 years of existence

The Hubble Space Telescope becomes 21 years old this weekend. The Space Telescope Science Institute, located in Baltimore, is one of the institutes that controls the telescope. To celebrate, the institute has pointed the telescope at a pair of spiral galaxies, one of which is distorted into a rose-like shape by the gravitational pull of

the other. Since its launch in 1990, the telescope has been one of the successes of the space program, photographing many beautiful and iconic images of the universe.

Relaunched robbery website keeps public informed

The Baltimore Police Department has relaunched its Citywide Robbery website where visitors can view surveillance videos and wanted fliers and sign up to receive email notifications of new cases. The website is designed to combat a recent rise in commercial robberies, which are up 57 percent in Baltimore compared to last year. The police hope that the website will generate tips to catch robbers such as the "Green Buick LeSabre" crew, who robbed up to 10 Baltimore businesses on April 17.

New currency promotes sustainability and local businesses

The Baltimore Green Currency Association released a new alternative currency to support sustainability and the local economy. Called BNotes, these bills portray famous residents of Baltimore from Frederick Douglass to Edgar Allan Poe. The first batch was released via a bundle of biodegradable balloons with instructions on how to cash the notes in at Woodberry Kitchen for a free dinner. BNotes can be exchanged for dollars, which the Baltimore Green Currency Association hopes will support local businesses.

—Briefs by Maya Silver, Justin Li and Katherine Simeon

All Johns Hopkins Arts and Sciences freshmen are invited to apply to the Woodrow Wilson Undergraduate Research Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage research, broadly defined, by Johns Hopkins undergraduates.

The program offers each Wilson Fellow three unique elements:

- Starting in his or her sophomore year, mentoring by one of the school's distinguished faculty members;
- Financial support of up to \$7,500, distributed over three years, for research-related travel, work or study, and equipment;
- Senior poster session at which the results of the Fellows' work are presented to the greater Johns Hopkins community.

Approximately 10 current freshmen will be chosen for this program. They will join the current Fellows from the classes of 2012, 2013 and 2014, as well as a group of incoming freshmen (who undergo a separate application process). Completion of the Woodrow Wilson Program will also be recognized at graduation.

Application requirements for rising sophomores:

- a two-page statement on your intended research and why you feel qualified to pursue it;
- your resume;
- a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who is willing to serve as your initial mentor;
- a copy of your transcript (unofficial is fine).

These materials should be submitted to:

Ami Cox
Woodrow Wilson Research Fellowship Program
Suite 225 Mergenthaler Hall
Johns Hopkins University
3400 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Deadline for Rising Sophomores: May 13, 2011
All materials are due by this date.

Questions? Contact Ami Cox at ami@jhu.edu.



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Aramark employees rally for better contract

WORKER'S RALLY, FROM A1

The crowd first gathered by the tennis courts next to AMR II. Despite the rain, many students still came to support the Aramark employees.

"The service workers here are such an integral part of being at Hopkins. They do everything for us and we don't even realize [it]," freshman Genevieve Swilley said. "We often barely take the time to say 'hi' to them let alone give them the benefits they need to survive."

Derek Demman, a political science graduate student, agreed. "Worker's rights are an important issue and framing labor as a human's rights issue is an important way of . . . providing a new approach for looking at it," he said.

Senior Dan Hochman, president of the College Democrats, felt that this is a way for students to get involved in worker's rights. "Nationally there have been a lot of fights over union representation and workers' rights," he said. "We're standing up for workers' rights locally."

The group then walked across the Homewood campus to Garland Hall. The workers requested to speak to the President. However, the President was unavailable and workers were directed to speak with Executive Assistant to the President Jerome Schnydmann.

Day began by presenting a copy of a petition signed by 1200 Hopkins students supporting the Aramark food service workers and UNITE HERE Local 7 in their contract negotiations with Aramark.

"We've been gathering student signatures to a petition, and also student organizations, calling for the University to pressure Aramark into settling a fair and

responsible contract for the food services workers," Day said.

Day read aloud the statement of the petition and listed the student organizations that had signed onto the statement. The organizations included the Graduate Representative Organization, College Democrats, Black Student Union, Black Graduate Student Association, Human Rights Working Group and the English Graduate Student Association.

In addition to Day, Aramark employees and several student group leaders voiced their concerns and opinions to Schnydmann.

"We're just trying to get some

of the stuff back we used to have... And [Aramark is] not willing to hear it or talk about it," Aramark employee Gladys Burrell said, listing short-term disability pay as one of the benefits they no longer have. "All we want is to be treated fairly.

All we want is to be treated fairly. Times is hard now. Nobody can make without a paycheck God forbid if something happens.

—GLADYS BURRELL, ARAMARK EMPLOYEE

Times is hard now. Nobody can make without a paycheck God forbid if something happens."

"We've been trying to negotiate this contract for six months. We really appreciate the students going in and helping us out. We don't want to disturb any of their studies," another Aramark employee said. "We want them to hurry up and get this thing done so everyone can get back to their work."

The College Democrats want to make sure that the school is aware of this issue. "In light of one of the school's goals, which is to become a better citizen in Baltimore — to strive to even greater heights in terms of what we can do for this city . . . College Democrats are here to make sure the school is paying attention and listening [to] this debacle [so] we can move somewhere quickly," Hochman said.

Anthropology graduate stu-

dent Bridget Kustin and representative for the Human Rights Working Group agreed. "There's a lot of life improvement that can happen here beyond just medical advancement," she said. "Lives of the members of the Hopkins community should be taken seriously."

"We would really like for the University to publicly call on Aramark to settle a fair contract. We know we were able to make progress this way last year when Aramark wasn't recognizing their union," Day said.

Schnydmann admitted to being uninformed of the situation between Aramark and its employees but said he would speak to Vice President of Human Resources Charlene Hayes, whose office encompasses such situations, to learn about the issues.

In a later phone call with Schnydmann, Schnydmann stated, after informing Hayes and President Daniels of the rally and the concerns of the students and Aramark employees, he would not play any further role in the University's decisions in this situation. According to Schnydmann, Daniels delegated the decision to Hayes.

"The vice president for human resources will know much more about it so she will carry the ball," Schnydmann said. "[Daniels is] kept abreast but at this stage he would not get directly involved."

According to Hayes, Hopkins policy regarding such situations is longstanding.

"It is not appropriate for the University to take a position in support of either side in a labor negotiation between a contractor and its employees," Hayes wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*. "The purpose of labor negotiations is for each side to represent its own interests in discussions aimed at reaching common ground. It is not appropriate for the University to interfere in that process."

Day declined to comment on the position reached by the University. Currently, Day has requested an appointment with Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration Daniel Ennis.

JHU places 3rd in RecycleMania

Hopkins comes in after MIT and Georgetown; proves Hopkins' commitment to recycling

By ABBY HARRI
Staff Writer

Hopkins recently placed third in the 10-week long RecycleMania competition. RecycleMania is a competition between Hopkins and other colleges and universities across the country, with the winner measured by the percentage of recycling per capita as well as waste reduction. The two finishers above Hopkins's 34.04 percent recycling rate were Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with 36.89 percent and Georgetown University with 50.09 percent.

"Our ranking in RecycleMania is an accurate reflection of our commitment to recycling. We are doing better than average relative to most of our peer institutions (and universities and colleges nationwide, in general) but we have potential to strengthen our program and become a national leader on recycling," Hopkins Office of Sustainability Outreach Associate Joanna Calabrese wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

Through its 10 years of existence, The Hopkins Recycling Program has maintained its traditional collection through aluminum, plastic and paper materials while expanding and adapting recently to include the recycling of electronic equipment as well as offering compost options for organic waste. The goal in offering these new recycling opportunities falls in line with goals to adapt to world change as well as the expansion of campus sustainability. These goals were developed after the implementation of the President's Task Force on Climate Change and its March 2009 report and the subsequent Implementation Plan for Advancing Sustainability and Climate Stewardship.

The Office of Sustainability plays a role in this implementation as well as promoting RecycleMania. The office's role on campus ties in heavily with its mission to develop Hopkins as an environmental leader in the various ways it promotes sustainability. The office also explores the use of alternative sources of energy, aggressively pursues energy conservation projects across the university divisions, engages the campus community to conserve resources through peer education and competition and promotes more sustainable food choices among other things according to Calabrese.

In addition, Calabrese believes that although RecycleMania was a positive effort, it doesn't reflect other efforts made by her and other organizations to reduce Hopkins's environmental impact. Affiliates of her office do not use solely RecycleMania results as a gauge of the quality of Hopkins's recycling program, but also analyze the weights of trash, recycling and compost on a monthly basis to create new goals and strategies for waste reduction on Hopkins's campuses.

"By recycling, composting and reusing materials creatively, we decreased the total amount of materials we send to the waste stream by three percent in fiscal year 2010. Last year was the fourth year in a row that we saw overall waste generation decrease, and we anticipate this trend will continue in 2011," Calabrese wrote.

The on-campus group Students for Environmental Action (SEA) played a major role in RecycleMania as well as in Earth Week and other "green" initiatives on campus. Co-President Diana Wohler noted that despite a few obstacles involved with RecycleMania it was a success as a whole, and that informing students of the rank-

ing of Hopkins regularly was an improvement on last year's RecycleMania.

"I think we got a lot more of the word out to Hopkins students who are naturally competitive and so the idea of a recycling competition is appealing to Hopkins students," Wohler said.

Additionally, Wohler pointed to the new global environmental change and sustainability major as an outlet for future interest and action among students. In her opinion, this more widespread interest in environmentally-friendly actions among a select group of students would spread interest throughout the University in general, a common goal among all of the aforementioned environmental advocacy groups.

"Hopkins has a lot of creative minds. I think that creating the global environmental change and sustainability major has helped a lot with that, but I think we have a long way to go in terms of putting our ideas to action," Wohler said.

Eco-Reps, directly affiliated

hasn't mirrored the actions needed to achieve set goals.

"Unfortunately, I can't say that I've seen a lot of progress yet towards those goals . . . [for SEA] we get a lot of great ideas, but we tend to run into roadblocks from simply a lack of man power in our group or in terms of administration as far as effecting those ideas and bringing those ideas to action," Wohler said.

Although Wohler believes that not enough is being done yet to reach said goals, the SEA has ideas to help Hopkins achieve its goals. These include upgrading fume heads on campus, creating punishments if fume heads are left open or used in a non-efficient way, reducing disposable water bottle usage and clearly labeling newly implemented compost stations at the Fresh Food Café and Nolans. They also would like to implement an education campaign and pledging system for students for composting, mainly through Facebook, so that composting opportunities at the Fresh Food Café and Nolans are utilized to their full potential.



FILE PHOTO

During the 10-week competition, Hopkins maintained a 36.89 percent recycling rate.

with the Office of Sustainability, promotes sustainable living on campus and creates ways for students to do this. Freshman member Zoe Kaiser agreed with RecycleMania's success, stating that Hopkins's rate of recycling topped the 30 percent goal established by the President's Office. Although Hopkins did not have a winning finish, Kaiser explained the difficulty in comparing Hopkins's recycling rate to a university such as Georgetown, which has a central campus contrary to Hopkins's multi-site university.

"Georgetown has the benefit of being a unified campus in that they didn't have to worry about setting up a recycling system at all of the different kinds of campuses that a school like Hopkins has . . . [the recycling rate] is difficult to gauge because no matter what we're doing at Homewood, we're still not on the same page as the other campuses and if they have a good idea we don't know about it either," Kaiser said.

Wohler agreed. She delineated another cause of some problems, stating that although Hopkins and its environmental action groups are ambitious in their intentions, such as the goal of the Implementation Plan for Advancing Sustainability and Climate Stewardship to reduce Hopkins's carbon footprint by 50 percent by 2025, the execution

Kaiser and the Eco-Reps also have many ideas. Kaiser stated that food-related issues are most important, as many classes now operate through technological rather than paper means. She expects recycling within fraternities to be implemented next fall, but focused on the food options that are offered on campus. She believes that disposable water bottles, take-out containers and take-out cups should be eliminated entirely from campus; what she called an altering of Hopkins's infrastructure.

"One of the biggest things that any society needs to do to reduce environmental impact is to change [its] infrastructure, and that's something that Eco-Reps has been trying to do . . . Until the infrastructure is altered and until bottles of water are not offered and take-out containers are not available, we will have a very difficult time making lasting accomplishments," Kaiser said.

Despite what was considered to be an impressive turnout, new ideas for greater improvement dominated discussion on RecycleMania. All agreed that Hopkins has an even brighter future when considering its future path in creating environmentally conscious campuses and a student body that would support such a system.

"More can always be done," Kaiser said.

Corrections

In the April 21 issue, the article, "Spring Fair draws crowds despite rain," Aaron Noparstak was incorrectly referred to as "she."

"SUPER FUNNY AND VERY SCARY."

Routh and Huntington have classic chemistry."

—Jami Philbrick, IAMROGUE.com

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CAROLYN HAN/PHOTO EDITOR
DSAGA's event featured a caricature artist.

DSAGA hosts Beach Day despite weather

BEACH DAY, FROM A1
“I thought everything was really great, the only thing was maybe the music was slightly too loud at some points because there were really big speakers in a small area, but other than that everything was really fun.”
DSAGA member Tory Halterman went so far as to credit the relocation with potentially attracting more students to the event.
“I mean [I] think a lot of people just heard the music when they were coming into Charles Commons and decided to check it out,” DSAGA member Tory Halterman said.
Member James Sabra disagreed.
“I think if it had actually been on the Beach it would have been a lot more successful because it would have grabbed the attention of people going by, but instead you kind of had to know exactly where it was gonna be and what is was gonna be about to find it in Charles Commons,” Sabra said. “But that’s not really the fault of anyone in DSAGA. That was ‘cause of the weather, which can’t really be controlled.”

Another issue participants disagreed upon was whether the event succeeded in its goal to attract more straight allies and raise awareness among non-members.
“I definitely brought some friends who don’t usually go to DSAGA and I feel like a lot of other people did too, so I feel like it definitely spread the word and got more people out than usual,” Zeldin said.
However, Sabra thought that the group could have done more to get the straight community involved.
“If you looked around the room it was pretty much just members there, I probably only saw about three or four new faces that I hadn’t seen at a DSAGA event before,” Sabra said. “But again, if it was on the beach, it probably would have been more successful because people walking by would have stopped by, instead of having to know specifically about the event to go there.”

While non-member turnout might not have been as substantial as some would have liked, Beach Day was certainly a successful introduction to DSAGA for those non-members who did turn out.
“Beach Day was an event receptive to all students, regardless of their prior involvement in DSAGA,” Fradkin said. “I appreciate the inclusive nature of DSAGA and will certainly look out for future events!”
Despite differences in opinions, members were able to agree on a few things — namely caricatures, henna and tie-dye.
“Obviously the few artist people were really cool because everyone wanted their own caricature or henna,” Sabra noted.
“[My favorite activity] was probably a tie between tie-dye and the caricature artist,” Halterman said. “‘Cause I’m a sucker for tie-dye.”

YouTube star draws crowds at IAC Japan Relief Benefit Concert

DAVID CHOI, FROM A1
“I [was] really excited,” Angela Li, class of 2010, said. “I’ve been a fan of him since freshman year so it’s unreal to see him in person.”
Choi, an LA native, is the 6th most subscribed to musician on YouTube. His videos have been viewed over 85 million times and his music has been featured on NBC, MTV, VH1 and in numerous commercials overseas. Choi’s first album came out in 2008.

Choi started off with a song from his first album, “Something to Believe.” He played guitar and vocals in a laidback style, with lyrics most young people could relate to. His songs ranged from the humorous “My Company,” which is about Facebook stalking, to the bittersweet “You Were my Friend.” Although most songs in the concert were original, he also performed a cover of “Rocketeer” by Far East Movement. Choi doesn’t have a favorite song to sing, because they are all important to him for different reasons. “I don’t really have a favorite song because they all bring me back to a different person or time,” he said after the show.

Choi pulled out his iPad in the middle of the concert to take a video of the audience and post it to his Twitter account.

As expected from a YouTube artist, Choi makes extensive use of the Internet to reach out to his fans and potential audiences. Although some people bought special meet-and-greet tickets to meet him personally later, Choi lingered outside the auditorium for several minutes immediately after the concert to meet all his fans. Many chose to stick around, forming a line for Choi and the merchandise table. He was enthusiastic and patient, even sitting for multiple poses with a group of middle school girls decked out in homemade fan T-shirts. As a result, the event continued well after the advertised 8:30 p.m. end time.

“It was not planned, but Choi really wanted to meet everyone,” Lester Kao, co-president of the IAC, said of the delay.
“The chance to see the musician in person was welcomed by his fans at Hopkins.
“I spend a lot of time on YouTube, so I’ve seen a lot of Choi’s videos, so it was cool to actually

see him live,” senior Catherine Liow said. “It was cool to listen to some of his original stuff because I guess most of the stuff I listen to when I’m browsing YouTube [are his] covers.”

Freshman Rachel Lee also enjoyed the live performance. “I love him on YouTube, but live is always better,” she said. “I’m really excited for his last song, ‘By My Side.’”

Many of the IAC members themselves were fans of Choi’s music. “I thought it was amazing to see such a famous YouTube star on stage live, performing all these songs,” sophomore IAC member Allen Zhang said. “And it’s also nice that he’s doing this all for charity too.”

“[It was] really, really amazing,” freshman IAC board member Jasmine Wang said. “I was really excited to see him. I wish [the concert was] longer.”

The concert also broadened Choi’s fan base, at least within Hopkins. Freshman Fannie Tao heard about the event from a friend on the IAC board. She had heard of Choi before, but grew to like him after the concert. “He was really funny. He kept the audience entertained,” she said. “I’m not that big of a fan, but . . . I like him now. Before I didn’t really listen to his music.”

Choi, who chose to come to Hopkins because Kao invited him, said, “I’m always happy to help out.” Although his schedule has him travelling all over the country, he participates in benefit concerts when he has time.

“Yeah, [I perform for charity] once in a while, when I can squeeze it in,” he said.

Kao, took the lead in organizing the benefit concert, contacting Choi, taking care of logistics and delegating roles to other IAC members.

“I think it went really smoothly,” he said. Kao attributes the success of the event to early planning. He contacted Choi in Jan., and members of the IAC and JSI began planning the concert in Feb. When the earthquake and tsunami struck Japan in March, it was just a matter of switching the cause for an event that was already falling into place.

“We started planning at least in February,” Wang explained, “but then [the tsunami] happened in March, so we switched

it then.”

“We wanted to switch gears to help out the people in Japan,” Kao said. “Originally [the concert was] to raise awareness of Hepatitis B, which affects Asians and Asian Americans at a higher rate.”

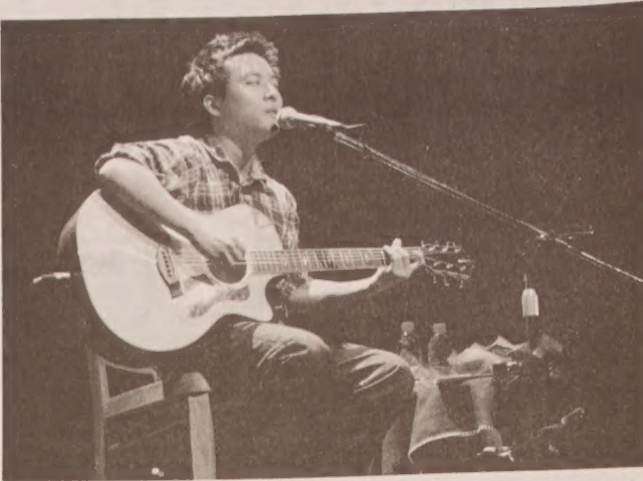
The audience seemed to perceive the event as well organized, despite the last-minute change of cause.

“They kept us up to date with when to check in and reminded us of when it was happening and that it was all for a great cause,” Li said.

Tao agreed. “I think this was really well organized compared to other events.”

There will continue to be more earthquake relief events on campus. Upcoming events will likely be headed by the JSI, Kao explained, since they have a stronger connection with the Japanese Red Cross.

“There are going to be other events [to benefit Japan],” Kao said, “but most of them will be spearheaded by JSI . . . They know who to contact in the Red

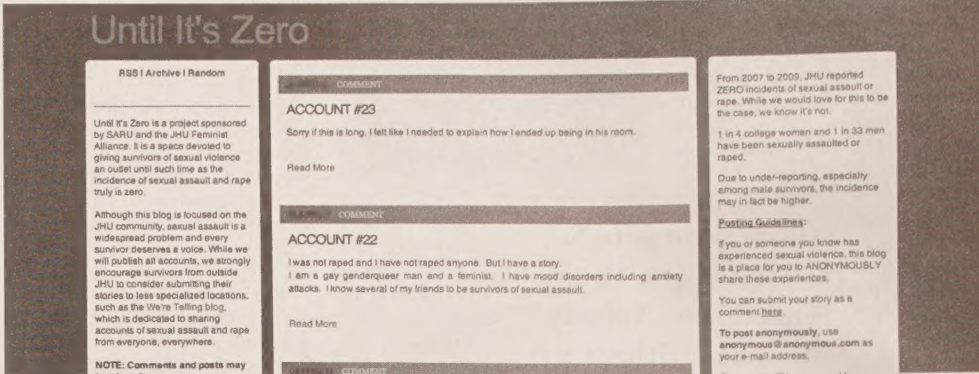


COURTESY OF DAVIDCHOIMUSIC.COM
YouTube music sensation David Choi performed at a concert in South Korea in 2010

Cross and a lot of them are native speakers [of Japanese].”

Through the benefit concert, the IAC and JSI demonstrated the capability to respond to the current needs of the international community in a timely fashion and to create a meaning-

ful event, even though the monetary contribution of the Japan benefit concert was miniscule compared to the magnitude of the loss in Japan. “I think every little bit helps in some way, so hopefully we made a difference,” Kao said.



COURTESY OF UNTILITISZEROTUMBLR.COM
New blog created by the Feminist Alliance provides information to students concerning sexual assault and its misconceptions

SARU creates new blog to raise awareness

BLOG, FROM A1
accounts as we have so far,” Song said. “It’s been interesting to hear from the people who have actually written on the blog. It seems that a lot of them are really happy that they have a place to speak.”

“This was trying to give survivors a voice because they really don’t have one on campus,” Tsilker said.

Yet, Song said that some people are skeptical and shrug off the facts, insisting that they do not happen at Hopkins. The first instrument of change is education, and programs for orientation week, or even the entire school, are under consideration. One such program is The Red Flag Campaign, which attempts to prevent dating violence on college campuses.

“Nine out of ten rapes on college campuses are done by repeat offenders, so it’s a very small percentage of people who are committing these kinds of crimes,” Song said. “It’s just a matter [of] getting people aware enough to stop these small percentages of people from attempting these things.”

The SGA is working on the Red Flag campaign as well. “What the SGA tries to do is make people feel more at home,” Wagle said.

“The Red Flag Campaign . . . it’s going around college campuses. It’s one of our big plans for next year.”

Song feels that Hopkins needs to provide students with more information on sexual assaults. “You don’t really hear about it during orientation. You don’t hear about prevention,” Song said. “We were doing a thing on the Breezeway of rape myths and rape facts and what constitutes sexual assault, and I had someone come up, and she was reading one of the facts and she realized that this was happening to her.”

SARU also had a panel with Hopkins security and Health and Wellness to help determine how often this happens on campus. “A [Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner] nurse from Mercy hospital [met with us]. She’s been seeing a lot of date rape drugs on our campus, but we’ve gotten no calls about this.”

In addition to educating students on sexual assault, date rape drugs and campus resources in order to prevent incidents from occurring in the first place, there needs to be an easier way to report crimes anonymously.

“Right now there doesn’t seem to be a good anonymous

reporting system, for someone who doesn’t want to go to Dean Boswell, who doesn’t want to go to security, but wants people to know that *there is an issue* at such-and-such a place on campus,” Song said.

Education and a reformed reporting system will go a long way to help the situation. However, some believe that change rests on school policy, which will hopefully be reworked.

“A lot of universities around the nation are starting to change their sexual assault policies, make them more defined and spell out what sexual assault is, what will be done if a student is found guilty of sexual assault and what can be done for the person who has been assaulted. We’re in the middle of that process right now,” Song said.

“[The administration] is working with SARU on a new policy on sexual assault,” Tsilker said.

SARU wants to give students a place to talk and let them know that it is okay to do so. “The most rewarding thing is letting people know that it isn’t their fault and empowering them in that way,” Song said. “We’re going to report on this until the actual statistic is zero.”



MOHAN LIANG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Paul Selva, advisor to Hillary Clinton, addressed the audience during the event.

FAS hosts advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

FAS, FROM A1
multiple spheres of knowledge, and be able to apply them to unanticipated problems.

This argument resonated with sophomore Eric Altamura. An Army ROTC cadet and FAS staff member, Altamura had the opportunity to share dinner with Selva before his talk. Altamura said he and Selva discussed the importance of a future military officer being knowledgeable about more than just the military.

“The world is changing quickly. Our responsibility as young people is not necessarily to become experts in one narrow field, but more to be able to adapt to unforeseen problems,” Altamura said.

Selva compared foreign policy to a three-legged stool, with the three legs being defense, diplomacy and development.

“If these three legs are in conflict, the stool can’t stand,” he said. He noted that in the Obama

Administration, the Defense Department is aware of this fact and is increasingly giving the State Department a larger role in making diplomatic contacts with local leaders in remote areas of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sophomore Kieran Coleman, an organizer of the event, said he was impressed with Selva’s talk, but noted that it was unfortunate that a new defense secretary, Leon Panetta, was announced just hours after Selva praised Gates’s policies and relationship with Clinton.

“I would have liked to have heard what he had to say about that,” Coleman said.

However, Coleman expressed satisfaction for how the event turned out. “The Foreign Affairs Symposium is proud to host someone of that high stature,” Coleman said of Selva. “[Selva] represents the balance of theoretical and practical training in international security affairs.”

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NEWS & FEATURES

Rising up to the D-Level Challenge: Best places to have sex on campus

As you begin your college career, you come in with big expectations and high hopes. You think that after your four-year stint, you'll leave with unforgettable stories and memories. Those stories never leave you. They define your college experience — like that one time you got trashed and danced in a corner by yourself at the Habitat for Humanity charity concert. Or that time you pulled two all-nighters for your econ final only to find out it was cancelled. And you definitely can't forget that time you smoked cigars on top of the engineering building.

As one might expect from our sexually charged culture, promiscuous stories tend to provide some of the most entertaining and memorable tales. These usually come in two forms: The glorifying acts of sexual prowess and the idiotic ones of sexual ineptitude. Glorifying acts range from sex in a public place to a threesome, while tales of bringing a potential partner back to your place and having them fall asleep on you or getting the BF/GF card pulled fall under the failure category.

Sexual actions in a public place are further championed if they relate to some campus specific locale. Every school has those wonderful places where

doing the nasty is the stuff of legend. Most of you have heard of the D-Level Challenge, but Hopkins has a few other memorable spots.

I will list five locations around campus and mention some of the difficulties provided by each challenge, as well as give them a difficulty rating out of 10. The list will be in descending order, starting with the most popular location down to the least popular (but not necessarily the least difficult).

1) The D-Level Challenge: This challenge is already chalked into JHU culture as the most well-known legend.

Since D-Level is silent it feels more rebellious to perform an illicit act when all the people nearby are being responsible students.

Pete Eckhoff Guest Sex Columnist

Additionally, getting laid among stacks of books is already a popular action most likely due to its exposure in teenage coming-of-age films. The stigma of this act certainly increases due to the amount of time Hopkins students spend in the library.

Completing this is tricky due to the constant presence of academically motivated students. Furthermore the lower levels are locked up late at night, thus eliminating the possibility of going and performing the deed in the late a.m.

Difficulty level: 4

2) The Beach: One of the most popular Hopkins hangouts, especially now that spring is finally here.

On just about any warm sunny day, the beach is littered with people soaking up the sun. The beach's popularity makes it a staple of your experience, so why not christen the locale with a sexual performance. The beach is a tough spot to cross off the list because it is so open. Kids roaming outside of the library and Hop Cops zipping around the loop don't help your cause.

Difficulty level: 8

3) The President's garden is host to dumb decisions and drunken debauchery during Spring Fair and Alumni Weekend.

This spot is popular for reasons similar to those of the beach. Doing the deed right on the President's lawn rubs it in the school's face, and sticks it to the man. This added appeal of getting back at the school makes it one of the most popular campus spots. The President's garden is a relatively open space and is somewhat lit.

Difficulty level: 5

4) Homewood Field is home to JHU lacrosse, and Hopkins's only real connection to big time collegiate sports. Centered on the 50-yard line is the faceoff circle. The circle is basically a big target screaming out: "Come have sex here." The association of big time athletics, crazy parties and sexual deviance the media plays up adds interest to this locale. It's pretty tough: The large and flat field is pretty exposed.

Difficulty level: 6

5) Bloomberg Observatory is home to some very impressive star-gazing gear. I have heard from peers that the roof of Bloomberg is a wonderful place to see our galaxy and, given the romantic notion associated with lying under the stars, the roof presents itself as a unique option. As with other locations, its portrayal in movies increases the aura surrounding it. When a guy and girl lie under the stars together in the movies, it's a done deal. Getting up onto the roof could present a serious issue, but once that's resolved this isn't too tough of a place.

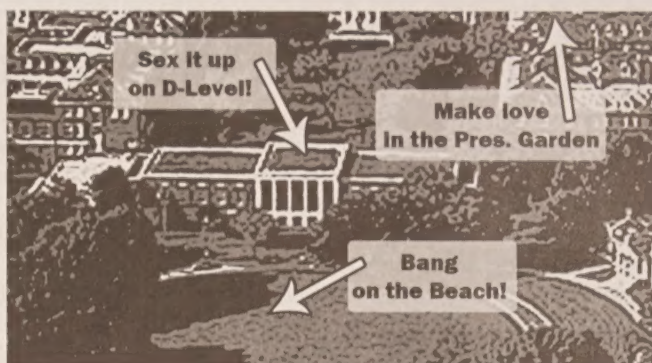
Difficulty level: 7

6) For a limited time only, you can add one more crazy memory to the list: The Brody Learning Commons Construction Site. The

to safely get onto the structure. The legally grey area around this would be a barrier for most.

Difficulty level: 10

Some other locations that are noted in Hopkins lore include: Mason Hall quad, Gilman Hall atrium, Latrobe Hall bell tower and Shriver stage. I have heard less of these as sexual destinations than the six previously discussed locations, but nonetheless they provide a substantial challenge and a terrific



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

ridiculous nature of having sex on a construction site (or even on a tall crane) glorifies it immediately. The risk and illegality of it add allure to this sexual locale. There are several concerns and difficulties with trying this out.

First, you must somehow sneak onto the construction site, and then figure out some way

tale.

* This column is intended in jest: I do not approve of performing sexual actions in these locations, or in any manner that is against The Johns Hopkins University school policy. If you perform such actions the University may hold you responsible for them.



COURTESY OF WWW.BLACKTIEOFNY.COM

All men should own one well-fitting suit even if they have to have it altered or tailored in some way. A good fit makes all the difference.

Apple strudel is delicious and fun to make

Since this will be my last recipe for the year, I decided to share an especially complicated one for apple strudel. Apple strudel is a sweet pastry; basically a German version of the all-American apple pie.

Allison Borko Guest Recipe Columnist

I made this recipe last year with my friend Nicole and her grandma. My friend's grandma is originally from Germany and this is her family recipe that has been passed down through the years from mother to daughter. It was a great experience to be included in this family tradition. It was also interesting to learn from someone who has been making this recipe for so long. Nicole's grandma does not use an actual recipe, but instead can judge how well the strudel is coming out by touch and feel. Therefore, this recipe is not exact and I have added a lot of Nicole's grandma's commentary to make this the best strudel possible. Without these notes, I can't really imagine making this recipe again.

Another great thing about this recipe is that it gives the baker a chance to try out new techniques. There are some methods, such as rolling out the dough extra thin, that are only used on pastries. I had never used these techniques before and probably won't be able to often, so it was great to have the opportunity to learn them.

So, for those of you who are feeling ambitious and can handle a slightly complicated recipe, here is a great one to try out. The end product is definitely worth the effort and I felt such a feeling of accomplishment after finishing all that work. I had also never had fresh apple strudel right out of the oven before, so that was a great and delicious experience as well!

First, we made the dough.

Dough:
Ingredients:
1/2 cup water
1/2 cup milk
2 eggs
4 tbsp vegetable oil
5 cups flour

Directions:

1. Add all ingredients in a part was definitely the coolest

large bowl and mix well by kneading.

Note that the amount of flour for this recipe is not exact. Start with four cups of flour and then judge how the dough feels. Don't add all five cups at first because the dough might feel too dry. For this reason, Nicole's grandma suggested kneading the dough by hand rather than using a mixer, because "you have to feel the power of the dough." After kneading the dough for about 10 minutes, let it rest. Leave the dough off to the side, to add to its texture, while you make the filling.

Filling:
Ingredients:
8 apples
1 1/2 sticks (12 tbsp) butter
1 (generous) cup of sugar
1/3 cup cinnamon
2/3 cup raisins
8 oz sour cream
3 eggs

Directions:
Prepare the filling.

1. First, peel and core the apples and cut them into fourths. (This seemingly easy task actu-



COURTESY OF ALLISON BORKO

The German apple strudel is Germany's version of the classic apple pie.

ally took a lot longer than expected.) Then, using a food processor, grind the apples into small, sliced pieces.

Now, it's time to prepare the dough that was sitting.

1. First, heat up and melt the butter in a saucepan.

2. Pour the melted butter over the dough and stretch the dough out, first separating the dough with the back of your fists, and then, as it gets thinner, continue to pull out. The dough should be paper thin and stretch to about 10 times its original size. This

of the whole process. It was unbelievable to see the dough get that big!

3. Remember to lay and stretch out the dough on a tablecloth because this will come in handy later.

Just to add, stretching the dough is tough, especially with so many people working on it at once. The dough must be evenly stretched throughout, so it is usually better if only one person does it.

When Nicole and her grandma and I were all working on it at once, we accidentally tore the dough. This is bound to happen the first time stretching and it is possible to fix the gaps. We folded those pieces of dough back together, used some water to glue it up and then re-stretched it.

Once the dough is ready, it's time to lay out the filling.

4. Spread the sliced apples about two to three inches wide over one whole side of dough.

5. Add the sugar on top, followed by the cinnamon, raisins and sour cream mixed with a little bit of milk.

6. Whisk the three eggs and spread them over the apple mixture.

Now, it's time to roll.

Remember before when we put the dough on a tablecloth? Now that comes in handy!

7. Slowly pull up the tablecloth, folding the dough over itself until it is enclosed and the filling is wrapped inside. Then continue pulling the cloth upwards so the dough layers itself. This is very similar to making sushi actually. This part gives the strudel its signature flaky layers and was also very cool to do.

8. Finally, place the strudel in a buttered glass pan and bake for 45 minutes to one hour until golden-brown.

Note, if using an electric stove, place in a 400 degree oven and then change the setting to 325 degrees when the strudel begins to brown. If using a gas oven, leave at 350 degrees for the entire time.

9. While baking, make sure to take some of the liquid that leaked out from the strudel and brush it onto the top of the strudel.

10. Finally, it's done. Enjoy!

Suit yourself with the class and style of a suit

It's that time of year; when weather gets warm and we prepare to go home for the summer. It also happens to be when I wrap up my column for the semester and possibly run out of further ideas... Anyway, I hope you enjoy the final installment of Above the Cut for this semester. Onto the suits!

Now I admit suits have popped up previously in my articles, but usually in brevity rather than detail, so I must now pay full dues to the suit and give it a proper article.

Where to begin is the question. Most people inherit suits as hand-me-downs from their fathers. My father randomly buys stuff from Goodwill, so I haven't taken any clothing from him in a long time. But my first suit, a pinstripe two-piece, was given to me by my father. I personally don't care for pinstripes and, as a result, have only worn it a few times. There is nothing wrong with getting hand-me-down suits; usually there is a sentimental value which is held higher than anything else.

However, most people who get hand-me-down suits forget that they need to be tailored — not everyone has the same measurements as his father. A suit should fit a man in such a way that it's not too long or too short for the arms and legs. The sleeve should either cover the shirt cuffs completely or let them poke out a tad. If in doubt, I'd say let them show a little — it will draw the difference in color from your shirt out to your hands. As for the legs, don't let your ankles show even if you want to show off those awesome argyle socks. You should receive a woman's consent before hiking up your pant legs to show her your argyles; it's a very special bond. A proper length for the pants would be to have the leg come down to the back of the heel of the shoe, but not too low that you are stepping on the fabric.

I spoke with a friend earlier about suits and she commented that there are a few exceptions to the length rules. If you are European or trying to be a hipster you are allowed to let your sleeves and legs come up short. Apparently the sub-culture of hipster wishes to stand out. Traditionally though, if you travel to Italy, you'll find that suit-wearers show more shirt cuff than I would show myself. But it's apparently perfectly fine.

Now, we need to address those hand-me-downs before you start going "hip" on me. The

easiest way to ready hand-me-downs, as mentioned, is to get them tailored. This is where they are hemmed and lengthened so that the suit fits adequately. Tailoring a hand-me-down is much cheaper than buying a new suit that's made-to-measure. However, if a new suit is something you have your eyes on, there are a few things to know as well. There are three degrees of suits: ready-to-wear, made-to-measure and bespoke. Ready-to-wear suits are premade, hence the cheapest to afford. These are most commonly found at department stores, where the racks have various sizes. You take a few, try them on and see which fits best. These standard, one-size-fits-all suits are the most common suits worn today. A step up from that

are the made-to-measure suits, which are prepared after you present your measurements. These are usually ordered and picked up later, with one fitting upon purchase. These are nice because they are personalized, to an extent. Since you provide your measurements the suit will fit as accurately as the measurements given. Also, the suits are made from an altered pattern. This allows slight customization in fabric and detail. The downside of this suit is that it takes a few weeks for it to be prepared.

Lastly, the bespoke suit is the most expensive. These suits are hand-sewn and hand-measured by a tailor from scratch. The tailor will take your measurements, find out what pattern and detailing you want and follow up with several in-between measurement sessions to make sure that your suit fits perfectly. This also allows the greatest amount of customization; you freely choose which fabric, patterns and detailing you want from neckline to leg. This is, however, the most expensive style of suit and can take a very long time to finish.

Before I leave you, there are a few final things to touch upon, including suits with different button counts. Most commonly, we have suits with two functional buttons. The double-breasted suit has four buttons, forming a square, where the far left buttons (as seen from the wearer's

position) are not used. This style of jacket is usually a "broader" or "larger" jacket. This jacket is good if you are large and want your shoulders to look a bit broader, or possibly to hide a little tummy. The problem with this suit is that you run the risk of looking like you are wearing a suit too large for you.

There are other styles and fabrics as well. I mentioned pinstripe, which looks like vertical stripes on the suit pieces. Another fashion is tweed, a rough woolen fabric, which allows for a variety

of colors based on the wool's treatment. You can also vary a suit by how many pieces are used. A two-piece suit includes the jacket and pants; a three-piece adds a vest. I discussed vests at length in an earlier article, but it is important to promote three-piece suits for the simplicity of the fact that a jacket isn't necessary all the time when one wears a vest. The vest and slacks look very nice together alone, allowing the wearer to remove his jacket if he gets too hot. However, a two-piece suit does not have that luxury and the suit jacket should not be removed despite the temperature.

Cufflinks are the final thing I want to touch upon; they allow a great deal of customization. Usually, links of the family crest are worn; sometimes buttons are even fashioned with the crest and worn on the jacket's front. Since family crests are not so common, most suits are fashioned with buttons that signify their brand or just look fancy. Bespoke suits allow you to pick the links yourself. I believe Hopkins sells cufflinks for dress shirts, but if one looked around, one might find a Hopkins-customized suit.

I find it most common for men to buy suits upon graduating high school. They have been through the prom rental system and are ready for a suit of their own. It is good to have a suit, not particularly to wear at every occasion, but should you need to attend a wedding or a formal event, you have the suit waiting for you — no more rentals. Either way, if you inherit or buy your own there are many choices and ways for you to make sure your suit suits you.

Jauffre Bismayer "Above the Cut"



THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorials

Opening the discussion on sexual assault

In late March, the Hopkins Feminist Alliance, in conjunction with the Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU) started a project called Until It's Zero, a blog that has been working to raise awareness about sexual assault and rape at Hopkins. In general, but specifically at Hopkins, sexual assault and rape are vastly under-reported as a result of stigmas perpetuated within our community. Some victims are embarrassed and many are unaware of what constitutes sexual assault. In fact, at an event that SARU held on the breezeway, one passerby realized that they in fact had been sexually assaulted. The vague popular definition of sexual assault certainly contributed to this confusion.

Even in the most open and responsive communities, which we hope Hopkins aspires to be, it is difficult for people to feel comfortable discussing and reporting sexual assault and rape. We applaud the Feminist Alliance and SARU for bringing greater salience to this issue. By creating a safe and anonymous forum in which respondents can discuss sexual assault, people can become more aware of the experiences of their peers. Hopefully, as a result, people will more readily recognize bad situations — whether they are the perpetrator or the victim.

We commend the Feminist Alliance and SARU for creating "Until It's Zero" (<http://untilitszero.tumblr.com>). This Internet forum allows Hopkins students to anonymously post about instances of sexual assault and rape. It is private and moderated. The blog expresses hope that it, "will give a voice to survivors who are all too often silenced, and will help spread awareness of the very real issue of sexual violence." We too share this hope.

There has already been a good deal of posting on the blog. At press time, there were 23 accounts of those affected by sexual assault or rape in some way. This demonstrates that problems do exist, both in general and at Hopkins. For victims who have already come forward and those who have not, it shows that they are not alone in their experiences.

Additionally, it demonstrates the situations in which a perpetrator or potential perpetrator may not be aware of his or her actions. The stories are candid and personal, and because it is a Hopkins forum, it also forces readers to re-examine their preconceptions about the presence of sexual assault or rape on campus. Clearly, with the existence of these posts, this issue is both relevant and one that merits extensive discussion on campus.

We hope the creation of this website and the steps taken by the Feminist Alliance and SARU are just one of many to come that will promote greater awareness and openness concerning these issues on campus and beyond.



The News-Letter honors the memory of Professor Thomas Fulton.

Anne Faber



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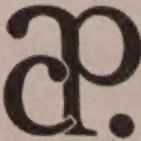
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OPINIONS

Michael Nakan

Guilty of violating the “Good Samaritan” law in the first degree

In the 2010 film *Kick-Ass*, protagonist Dave Lizewski is mugged while walking through an alleyway. He catches a glimpse of a man watching the mugging happening from the relative safety of his own home through the blinds of his window.

“Look at this guy, just watching,” Lizewski thinks to himself. “But be honest: would you do anything different?”

The employees of a small McDonalds in Rosedale, just east of Baltimore, apparently wouldn’t.

On April 18th, Chrissy Lee Polis, a 22-year old transgender woman, was assaulted by two teenage girls at the fast food restaurant. The attack, which lasted for over three minutes, was filmed by an employee of the restaurant and posted online via Facebook and Twitter. The film depicts a savage beating comprised of kicks, punches, chokeholds and even shows the assailants drag Polis from the back of the store to the front, pulling out clumps of hair in the process.

The video was recorded by an employee and although several of them halfheartedly attempted to break up the assault it was only from the timely intervention of a middle-aged woman customer (who was caught up in the flurry of punches and kicks herself during her intervention) that the attack was stopped — that and the fact that Polis began to have a seizure and the attackers ran away, following the advice of an unidentified man who told them, “Y’all better get out of here!”

This story is one that had attracted lots of attention in the national media for the perceived “hate crime” aspect of the assault (the assailants were reportedly infuriated by the fact that Polis had used the woman’s bathroom), and for good reason: the one-two punch of

this and the effective political killing of the HB 235 bill, which would have protected transgender people in housing, banking and employment, definitely point to an attitude in Maryland and more generally throughout the United States of hostility toward transgender people.

This sort of nonchalance and in-

to impede the ability of Polis to recover, but also sets the tone that to capture the suffering and pain of a person undergoing an unprovoked attack is okay and it is not socially necessary for bystanders to get involved in assaults like this.

I don’t think that the crucial question in this attack should be whether or not

to tell them to flee before the police arrived)? To be frank, I don’t think so — in fact, with the hubbub surrounding this issue from the media, I think that we absolutely should make an example out of this unknown man.

In the United Kingdom, there was a brief trend among teenagers known as “Happy Slapping,” wherein a group of youths would mug or beat up an innocent man while a member of their party (frequently a girl) recorded the assault. In 2008, a 15-year-old girl was arrested and subsequently jailed for two years for recording an attack which fatally injured the victim. The decision was unprecedented.

While the McDonalds attack was not as bad for a couple of reasons (namely that he was not part of the assault and that the victim was not badly injured), it is a violation of the same principle which led to the conviction of the English teenager.

Beatings like this should not occur, period. But it is a sad fact of human nature that they inevitably will from time to time, and the police cannot be everywhere at once.

The onus falls upon us, all of us, to help those who are in need and not allow the few to intimidate the many.

The unnamed man who filmed the attack not only didn’t help, but also in a way idolized attackers by recording the event and imprinting upon the national consciousness. I call for the Maryland authorities to take action against this man, to make an example of him so this type of baseless cowardice and insulting behavior happens less in the future.

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ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

difference from those watching the assault (some even seem like they’re laughing at points throughout the video) is an unacceptable indictment of the culture of fear which has built up in Baltimore and other cities throughout the country and indeed the world. It allows a select few criminals to hold an entire group of people or even a whole city hostage.

The terrible modern flipside to this story is how quickly it was put online, where it remains for viewing. The ease of uploading one of these videos to a space where it can be viewed by anyone and everyone is a worrying trend indeed.

That this recording will likely stay online ad infinitum is not only going

it is classified as a hate crime (although I certainly hope and expect that to happen), but instead what the fate of the videographer and the other bystanders will be.

The series finale of *Seinfeld* way back in the 90s humorously depicted the gang being sent to jail for doing nothing to help a man being carjacked besides recording the theft and cracking jokes about it — the show’s creators dubbed the legal infraction “the Good Samaritan” law.

Is it too much to expect for some sort of legal action to be taken against the insensitive and crude man who filmed this assault and then posted it online for all to see (in addition to the fact that his only interaction with the assailants was

Omar Qureshi

Why universal health care is a universally terrible idea

There is no hipper liberal principle than universal health care. It helps the poor, hurts parasitic insurance companies and will make America more like France. What more could one want?

Hip as it may be, universal health care is a bad idea for people of all political persuasions. It will exacerbate present problems as well as create new ones in the future.

The only way to develop a sensible discussion about health care is to begin by sorting the good ideas from the bad ones. To that end, it is important to consider the problems of a universal system.

If the government is footing the bill, people will visit doctors more frequently. They will request erroneous procedures and visit the doctor’s office even when they have minor reason to do so.

Medicare, government funded health insurance for the elderly, incurs extraordinary costs due to excessive doctor visits, tests and procedures. To make matters worse, these extra tests have done nothing to improve the health of Medicare recipients.

The cost of Medicare has been so inflated by waste that, even though the program only insures the elderly, it made up 12 percent of the federal budget last year. Universal health care would cost way more than Medicare. It would also create much systemic harm.

The government will have to work hard to cut the costs of universal care. It has few options with which to do so.

Congress could legislate out certain tests or cap the number of visits one can make. It could also choose not to cover procedures which it finds to be morally

objectionable. This is a dangerous road to travel on. Social conservatives have a penchant for cutting funding for people who are gay, transgender, considering abortion and for treatment related to sex and drugs. No one wants politicians to choose provisions in their health insurance plans.

The government might also decide to just cut the amount that it pays doctors and hospitals. Politicians will choose to pay less than the proper market rate for such procedures. Today, the government barely pays doctors enough to cover the cost of visits and procedures.

As a result, hospitals increase the price of the procedures. They pass what they lose on Medicare and Medicaid patients on to privately insured persons. Currently, the government’s cost cutting translates into high medical prices for everyone else.

When doctors are paid less, they have less of an incentive to perform as well. Similarly, there is an inverse relationship between patient satisfaction and the number of patients seen by a doctor after a certain point.

America has a major shortage of doctors. By 2020 there will be 200 thousand fewer doctors than this country needs.

If the number of primary care physicians does not grow in the next few years, the system will be overburdened beyond repair in 20 to 30 years. If the U.S. were to universalize health care, the number of doctors would fall.

Since the government is likely to pay doctors less than private insurance, doctors will make less money if health care is universalized. In order to make pre-universal health care salaries, doctors will need to see more patients and do

more procedures.

Private insurance companies are forced to pay doctors the fair market rate. If an insurance company pays too little, the doctor will choose not to recognize that insurance company’s plan.

If a doctor demands too much, an insurance company will choose not to do business with him. This all evens out, and doctors are paid fairly. As a result, doctors will not be underpaid as they would be with universal health care.

Universal health care is thus a sure-fire way to decrease the number of doctors and increase the number of patients. Combined with population growth, universal health care will substantially increase the number of patients.

Doctors will be overburdened and the quality of care will suffer. People will have long waiting lists and less empathetic physicians. The availability and attentiveness of medical care is directly related to the health and satisfaction of patients.

The decreased quality of health care will cause people to try to seek out private insurance. Private insurance companies would not be able to compete with the government because the government can spend in debt. A company does not have the luxury of operating at a loss.

As a result, there will only be a few health insurance companies. These companies will charge a lot of money because of the scarcity of their product. Only the very rich will have access to

Omar Qureshi is a junior International Studies, political science, and philosophy triple major from Monnett, Mo. He is an editor at large for The News-Letter.

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

Ian Scott

Time to put the ‘birther’ baby to bed

Yesterday Barack Obama released the long form of his birth certificate. Yes, his authentic “Certificate of Live Birth” from Honolulu, Hawaii dated August 4, 1961. This development, which when you think about it, is entirely trivial compared to the real issues he deals with as President, raises a couple of key questions.

First, will this capitulation to the incessant demands of his opponents finally end this ridiculous spectacle once and for all? And secondly, why did Obama choose to release the document now of all times?

Surely, this must take the wind completely out of the sails of the “birther” movement, which claims that Obama was not born in the United States and is therefore not eligible to be the President of the United States.

And yet, as always, there are some people who claim that this document is forged. A quick disclaimer: I am no expert on birth certificates and do not claim to know whether or not this document is legitimate. I will leave that to the government officials in Hawaii who universally assert it is real. Having said that, just by releasing the document, Obama has almost conclusively proved it is real. It seems to me that Obama has little to gain and much to lose by releasing a forged birth certificate. Especially given that little known fact that Obama is natural born by virtue of his mother being an American citizen and resident, irrespective of his place of birth. In other words, there is zero evidence that Obama obtained his citizenship the only other way — by naturalization.

All that talk about British law governing because his father was Kenyan is only so much nonsense. Since when does foreign law control American law? If Donald Trump had the right to claim, say, citizenship in Kazakhstan, would that mean he was disqualified from the U.S. presidency?

Obama was by no means backed against the wall and forced to release the document. He did so (or at least claims he did) only to put the nonsensical swarm of media coverage surrounding his birth certificate in the past.

If it were indeed a fake certificate, his lie would undoubtedly be uncovered. You can bet that just about every expert in the country, or in the world even, is examining this thing like a hawk just so he can be the one to prove that Obama is a fraud.

And that is just what some people are doing. One amusing author that I have come across online states that the document must be fraudulent because the “Date Accepted by Local Registrar” does not match up with the date of birth. All you have to refute that absurdity is notice that the document was accepted the same date the doctor signed it. Also, there are mysterious X’s above the boxes denoting twins and triplets. Naturally, this means that Obama has lost one or two siblings along the way.

I might be left looking very foolish soon if someone can find a fault in this birth certificate, but as far as I’m concerned, there is no reason or need for anyone to be barking up the “birther” tree. It made no sense when people started talking about it and it makes even less sense now.

It would appear that even ultra-conservative stalwarts Glenn Beck and Sarah Palin realize this now. For after the release of the birth certificate, instead of challenging its legitimacy, they challenged the timing of its release by the White House.

Tangentially, Beck lamented the fact that Obama actually held a press conference about his birth certificate. It does seem odd that Obama would stimulate more press about the origin of his birth by releasing a document with which he intended to quell the attention that Donald Trump and the birther movement have gotten.

However, this press is going to be short-lived and should ultimately let people focus on real issues as Obama wants. The thing that both Beck and Palin took issue with was the fact that Obama held this conference on the day that Ben Bernanke, chairman of the Federal Reserve, was due to make a speech. Could this be a coincidence? According to Beck and Palin, it was completely by design.

So in other words, they are blaming Obama for trying to shift the media spotlight to something of his choosing. Is that not what all politicians try to do most of the time? To me, this is just politics as usual.

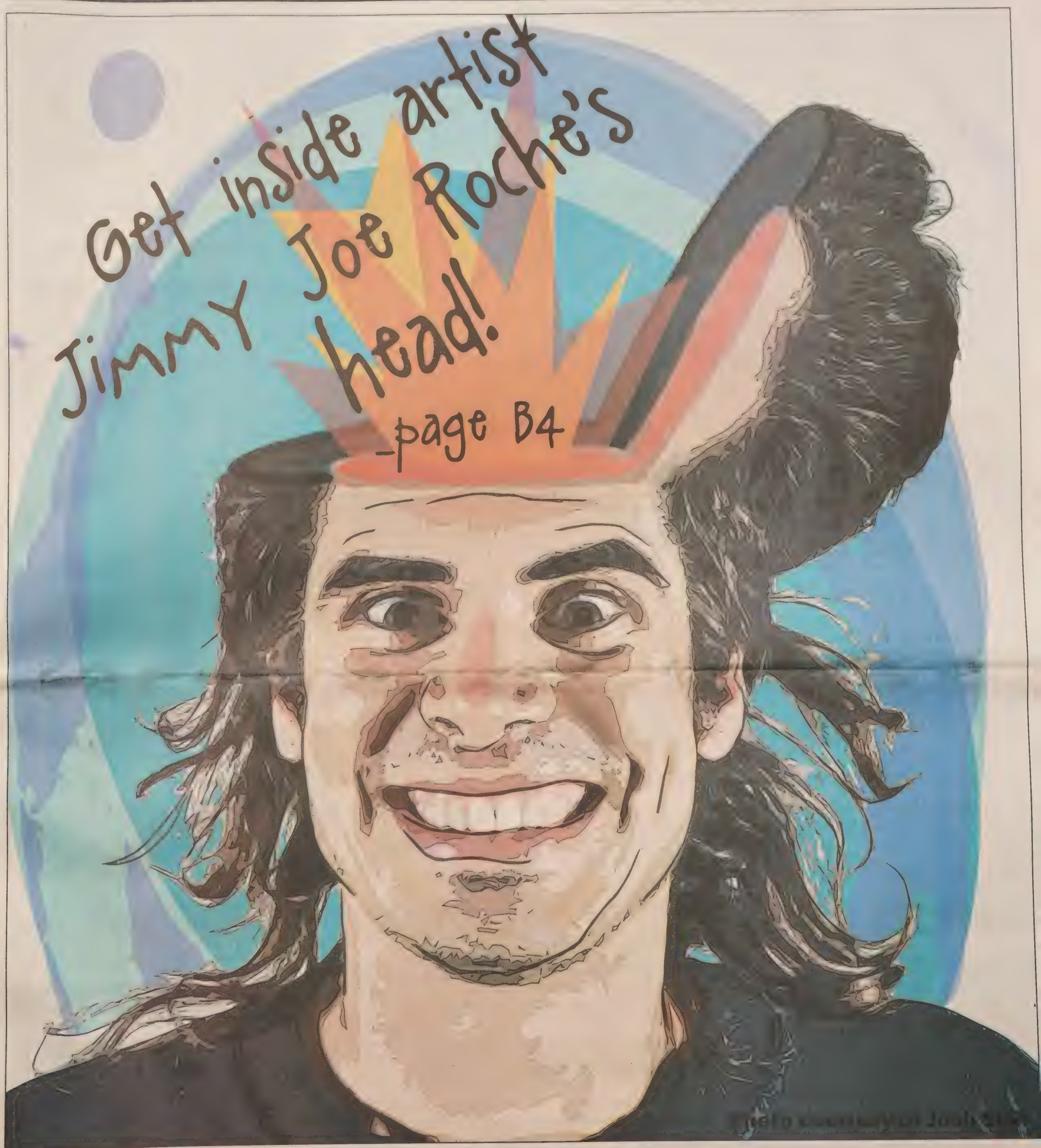
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APRIL 28, 2011



YOUR WEEKEND APR. 28 - MAY 1

How to deal with the end of school

This is my last dilemma. After three years of writing this column and many, many quandaries, my time with the wonderful Your Weekend section is drawing to a close.

I had always envisioned my last column as being something profound and poetic, deserving of positive reception and acclaim, or evocative of surprised responses such as "I didn't know they gave the Pulitzer for undergraduate newspapers!"

At the very least, I expected to do a reflective montage of sorts in the manner of series finales of sitcoms in the 1990s, reviewing highlights of my career as a columnist, complete with wavy font to make it seem more like a dream sequence.

But now, my real dilemma is that I cannot live up to these expectations, nor do I have the time to try as the end of school approaches and work piles on more than ever.

Therefore, I will stick with what I do best and tackle one last dilemma this week: How to deal with the end of school... and beyond.

As the end of college approaches for the few, and as the end of classes draws for the many, hours seem short and the demands seem high.

This is pretty normal for campus, but add a dash of allergies and a few days of nice weather, and suddenly the grind takes on new meaning.

It's the final push, the final struggle before the floodgates of summer fling open, and we are unleashed in our wiped-out state on whatever comes next: summer jobs, internships and, for the chosen few, financial independence and doom.

If you're still looking for things to do for the summer, here are a couple tidbits I picked up along the way that might help you in your quest.

Baltimore is a great city for



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Summer may seem impossibly far away, but in reality, there is only one week of classes left.

college students.

I can't speak to the math and sciences end as much as I can to the humanities, but there are tons of great internship opportunities at Baltimore publications and institutions and you don't need to have a "daddy" to get your foot in the door.

Visit websites and send out feelers and you'll get a bite.

On a broader note, talking to professors and looking for opportunities on campus are both other amazing resources that not nearly enough people take advantage of.

Granted, we are at our core a research institution, but it is guaranteed that if a professor is teaching at Hopkins, they have some work experience — it's not only the biology professors sending kids to work in their labs.

Reach out to professors and they will help you network. Don't be shy, the teachers want to hear from their students and showing an interest can be mutually beneficial.

Also, you don't need to have an internship over the summer to get into grad school, get a job, etc.

You can just go home and hang out with your friends and work at the day camp you have worked at since junior year of high school. There's plenty of time to get work experience during the semester.

Even if all your computer science friends are going to Google to earn thousands of dollars, it doesn't mean you're a failure.

The truth is, you might as well just be a kid while you have your parents' support. It does pay off to graduate with a stacked résumé, but if it doesn't seem worth it to you personally, it probably isn't.

The last thing I want to say isn't really about summer, but it's my last piece of advice as a columnist and I think it's good, so I'm going to slip it in here.

Before you graduate, find at least one thing on campus that you can throw your heart into. It only takes one thing that you can look back on and say "I left this better than how I found it" to not have regrets about your college experience.

And with that, I'm signing off.

Thank you so much for your support over the years.

Arts groups fill homecoming weekend with performances

By FLORENCE LAU
Your Weekend Editor

This week, a multitude of fine arts events are taking place on campus, from Shakespeare to a capella groups to string quartets.

JHUT is presenting Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound* in the Merrick Barn from Thursday to Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 for students and \$15 for general admission.

The Dunbar Baldwin Hughes Theatre will be showing *The Human Web* on Thursday at 7:15 p.m. in Shriver Hall.

In addition, the JHU jazz band is giving their spring concert in the SDS Room, Matlin Center on Thursday at 8 p.m.

The JHU Barnstormers are putting on *As You Like It* on the steps of the MSE Library. Performances will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday. This performance is free.

Sirens, the all-female capella group at Hopkins, is giving their spring concert on Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of Mudd Hall.

Finally, on Sunday at 5:30 p.m., the Tokyo String Quartet with Leon Fleisher on piano will appear in Shriver Hall as part of the Shriver Hall Concert Series. Student tickets are \$19.



FILE PHOTO



COURTESY OF EVENTS.JHU.EDU

Alumni Weekend is a chance for alumni to reconnect with their classmates and campus.

Alumni Weekend will feature a capella groups and parade

By FLORENCE LAU
Your Weekend Editor

Alumni Weekend begins this Friday, April 29th and runs until Sunday, May 1st.

This is a chance for any Johns Hopkins alumni to come back and reconnect with their old classmates and the campus.

Although most events will be restricted to returning alumni, there are a few student events that will be open to everyone.

The most notable student event is the Young Alumni Tent Party. This event, for those 21 and over and generally, seniors, takes place from 1 p.m. — 1 a.m. in the courtyard of Bloomberg Hall.

Tickets cost \$15 and will include coupons for three free drinks (beer, wine or soda). Free food platters will also be provided.

There will also be music and hundreds of young alumni to socialize with. No one will be admitted after midnight and last call is at 12:30 a.m. Go to www.alumni.jhu.edu/reunion to register.

The Battle of the A Cappella Groups will take place on Friday evening in Shriver Hall Auditorium. Several a cappella groups

will be competing against each other for a \$500 prize. Reservations are requested, but not required, to attend this event.

The Johns Hopkins Alumni Authors Book Fair is in Levering on Saturday, April 30th at 9 — 11 a.m. Alumni authors will be showcasing their published works for review and purchase.

There will be different genres of books, from poetry to fiction to non-fiction about art history, philosophy, medicine and more.

A complete list of authors, books and subjects can be found on the Johns Hopkins Alumni website under Alumni Weekend 2011.

Of course, no Homecoming would be complete without lacrosse. Saturday will feature a "Rock the Quad" Pre-Game Rally on the Freshman Quad, complete with food and music.

Then, there will be the Homecoming Parade: The 50th and 25th reunion classes will lead the march to Homewood Stadium.

The Hopkins Blue Jays will be playing against the Loyola Greyhounds on the Homewood Field from 2 — 4:15 p.m. Students can pick up a free ticket with student ID at the White Athletic Center.

Calendar of JHU Events

Thursday, April 28



COURTESY OF YPF.ORG

Prosperity & Progress
7:30 — 9:30 p.m.
Hodson 110

Ambassador Wendy R. Sherman, assistant secretary of state under Clinton and chief advisor to Madeline Albright, will be giving a keynote speech. She will address topics on the future of the U.S., the road to economic recovery and more.

Friday, April 29

STEP UP
11 a.m. — 12 p.m.
Founders' Wall

As part of the STEP UP events, come enjoy ice

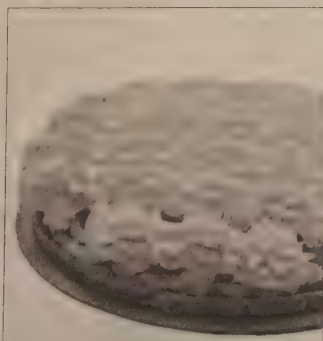
cream sandwiches and chocolate éclair bars with President Daniels and Ray Snow, the president of the Alumni Association.

Art Brigade Bake Sale
11 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Levering Courtyard

Art Brigade will be hosting a bake sale to support their mission of providing a fun artistic outlet to the students of Tench Tilghman Elementary. Come buy some delicious treats!

Pie an RA @ Relay
7 — 10 p.m.
Upper Quad

Donate to the American Cancer Society by pieing an RA on the Upper Quad. Each pie is only \$2. Check the Facebook event page for a schedule of the RAs who will appear.



COURTESY OF STATIC.IFOODTV

Friday Night Films: Just Go With It
8 p.m.
Mudd 26

Friday Night Films presents Just Go With It, a romantic comedy about a plastic surgeon asking his assistant to pose as his soon-to-be-divorced wife to cover up a lie he told to his younger girlfriend.

Saturday, April 30

The Fiji Islander
12 — 6 p.m.
Decker Garden

Phi Gamma Delta is hosting a Fiji Island party as part of Homecoming Weekend. Part of the proceeds will be going to USO, so come out to show your support.

Sunday, May 1

A Conversation on the Middle East
6 — 8 p.m.
Mason Hall

HRH Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein, representative of Jordan for the UN, will be speaking about the Middle East.

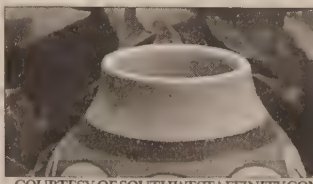
Calendar of B'more Events

Thursday, April 7

8th Annual Transmodern Festival
6 — 11 p.m.
H&H Building, Current Gallery & Tyson Alley, The 14Karat Cabaret and The Digital Media Center

Over 150 local and national artists will be presenting their multidisciplinary work during this four-day festival celebrating the interactive and obscure.

Friday, April 29



COURTESY OF SOUTHWESTAFFINITY.COM

Timonium Sugarloaf Crafts Festival
10 — 6 p.m.
Maryland State Fairgrounds

More than 250 artists and craftspeople from all over the nation will

be congregating to showcase their crafts, ranging from pottery to furniture to photography. There will be live demonstrations as well as family entertainment. The festival runs through May 1st.

"New Logic" Release
8:30 p.m.
The Red Room

The Red Room founder John Berndt is hosting a release party for his newest solo effort "New Logic for Old Saxophones." The concert will include three different sets. Admission is \$5 or \$10 with the CD at a reduced price.

Serious Dynamite
9 p.m.
Red Maple

Serious Dynamite is a weekly dance party featuring local, regional and national indie-underground music. This week, the featured bands are Nacey, Uncle Jesse and Cullen Stalin.

Saturday, April 30

Get Duck Stuck
8 — 11 p.m.
Cyclops

Tim Kaye will be playing gothic jazz rock with a quintet. Meg and the Megyvers will follow with smoky folk/indie blues. There will be duct tape wallets on sale. Come to Cyclops for a great night of music and crafts.

Sunday, May 1



COURTESY OF STUDENT.OUE.EDU

Through the Looking Glass
6 — 8 p.m.
City Neighbors High School

The Maryland Academy of Couture Arts is hosting a runway show featuring Alice in Wonderland-themed gowns and suits. This is a fundraiser for House of Ruth. Student admission with ID is \$20. City Neighbors High School is located at 5609 Sifton Avenue.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

30 Rock: Past, Sideways and Future

BARBARA LAM
Copy Editor

In an age where we're constantly qualifying our favorite television shows with reasons like "the kiss between Kurt and Blaine was so good" and "well Archer is a badass," it comes as a relief that we don't need to do much explaining for *30 Rock*.

Unlike other shows that depend on the already Auto-Tuned catchiness of Top 40 songs and dancing celebrities or plot twists involving merry-go-round relationships between cast members, *30 Rock* survives solely on its writing.

It pins its success on Tina Fey's self-deprecating humor and Alec Baldwin's handsomeness/magnificent acting skills. Sometimes it teeters on the edge of the ludicrous (and can fall off when in Tracy Morgan and Jane Krakowski territory), but it usually stays on top with just the right amount of cultural commentary and political sass.

This week's "100" episode proved that behind lazier episodes like "Queen of Jordan" there's a team of writers still capable of spitting out sharp dialogue.

30 Rock cranked out an hour-long episode this week in which Liz Lemon, played by Fey, tries to bring Tracy Jordan, played by Morgan, back to *TGS* (*The Gilly Show*) before it gets cancelled.

Jordan has been absent from rehearsal under the guise of doing philanthropic work in Africa.

After some investigation Lemon realizes his humanitarian aid consisted of ordering takeout and watching vintage pornography in a warehouse in Queens, where he had been hiding from the public out of fear that he had garnered too much respect to be funny anymore after his film *Hard to Watch* won an Oscar.

Jordan promises Lemon that he'll come back to *TGS* only if he can successfully re-ruin his reputation. During the scramble to lower the world's standards — Jordan interviews with Matt Lauer, Regis and Kelly and tells Rachel Ray to "back that ass up and make me a sandwich" — a pipe bursts and leaks gas into the NBC building, leaving everyone with a conveniently induced high.

The janitor, played by Michael Keaton, preps the show for a stumble down memory lane by warning of possible side effects including "hallucinations, revelation of secrets, telling the truth, flashbacks, headaches [and] nostalgia."

At the very start of the episode, Lemon quips to Hank Hooper (who gets better every time, transforming from a homebody into a sugar-coated wolf), "Why would you cancel

SEE ROCK, PAGE B5

By JANE SYH
Staff Writer

Last Friday, the JHU AllNighters kept it classy "in spite of themselves" with music, mustaches and merriment at their 18th annual spring concert.

The standard AllNighters concert is a bona fide fire hazard, and this one was no different as students made a mad dash for open seats, leaving the unlucky remainder to cram into the aisles and peer over each other in the back.

Bloomberg was brimming with excited spectators and the AllNighters were certainly ready for the occasion.

The most sophisticated mustache, one to be envied by even Tom Selleck, graced the center of the auditorium's chalkboards, surrounded by the lounging Mad Men silhouette, the a cappella group's moon insignia and the classic AllNighters night sky.

The AllNighters, Hopkins's only all-male a cappella group, introduced themselves with a brief silent film showing them wandering around Bloomberg trying to find their way to the stage.

It was a simple concept, but perfectly-acted and brilliantly edited, and drew laughter and applause from the audience as the AllNighters burst into the room.

They opened, as they do every concert, with "Mediocre," an original song penned long ago with lyrics poking fun at themselves and other Hopkins a cappella groups.

The background vocals were enthusiastic, but uneven and sometimes overpowering senior soloists Andrew Lelin and Adam Reiffen and the crowd was rowdy.

Unfortunately, the opening number was also the show's weakest number — but it was all uphill from there.

Next came Muse's "Undisclosed Desires." This time, the background vocals were seamless, melting into soloist Paul Han's voice, which was beautiful, as always.

Music director junior Rob Grande clearly did his job well with this number, as the musicality of the piece was wonderful, its undulating dynamics matching the drama of the lyrics



YOUNGBIN PARK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The AllNighters put on a well-attended concert featuring iconic songs like John Lennon's "Imagine."

and drawing the audience into the song.

One of the night's highlights followed — "Africa," by Toto, a clear crowd favorite. Before the AllNighters had even finished the song's opening strains the audience was cheering, bringing grins to the vested men's faces.

They had fun with the song, incorporating inspired choreography such as forming a mountain with their arms at the line "As sure as Kilimanjaro rises like Olympus above the Serengeti." Sophomore soloist Ryan Thompson was perfect for the song.

University of Maryland's Treblemakers followed with a short set as the AllNighters took a break.

They were utterly unremarkable, save for the fact that it was a legitimate concern that someone in the restless crowd might throw something at them. However, their third song "Leave the Pieces" by the Wreckers had a nice soloist, and the arrangement wasn't bad.

Then came the round of gifts and solos for the four departing seniors.

Speeches were made, peppered with inside jokes, before each senior received an engraved plaque along with some gag gifts that included everything from Ramen to beard-grooming products to a *Playboy* magazine.

For his senior solo, Andrew Lelin chose "That's What Friends are For," a song made famous by Dionne Warwick.

It was a wonderful song choice, both for Lelin as a singer and for the bittersweet occasion, somehow solemn and emotional at the same time. He and the AllNighters were amazing, and received a standing ovation.

Adam Reiffen followed with "These Are the Days" by Jamie Cullum, the very song he used when he auditioned for the group four years ago.

It was a smooth piece for Reiffen's smooth voice, reminiscent of soft sunlit afternoons, and concluded with many hugs from his fellow AllNighters.

Next was "Little Lion Man" by Mumford and Sons, the solo chosen by senior Mike Fellows.

An extremely talented beatboxer, Fellows's voice is not usually heard because he is provid-

ing percussion for the group, which is a shame since it's pretty much dazzling.

Upon hearing the first few notes, audience members who knew the song began to titter and whisper excitedly, but they quieted almost immediately as Fellows began to sing, completely captivated.

The arrangement for this piece was also particularly impressive, and the group did an admirable job.

The last of the seniors was Sangwoo Ryu, who had been proclaimed as having a "baby diva angel voice," something that was inconceivable until he started singing — and then it made so much sense.

His solo, John Lennon's "Imagine," was one of the best performances of the night. It's not easy doing such an iconic song justice, but the AllNighters did that and more. Ryu's solo was entrancing, the background vocals simple but poignant and the senior solos concluded on a high note.

Then there was another Charlie Chaplin-esque silent film, titled AllNighters in Springtime, SEE ALLNIGHTERS, PAGE B5.



COURTESY OF WWW.TVGUIDE.COM

Future Jack warns present Jack against past and sideways Jack.

Schnabel's Miral offers a miserable montage of the Middle East conflict

By SARAH SALOVAARA
Staff Writer

Artist/filmmaker/pajamas-lover Julian Schnabel is not one to shy away from the depressing, the up-hill and non-fiction narratives.

His most lauded film — 2007's *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* — was an adaptation of magazine editor Jean-Dominique Bauby's memoir, detailing his life after a stroke suddenly left him speechless and paralyzed (only his left eyelid retained any semblance of mobility).

Schnabel's follow-up, 2010's *Miral*, is also a biographical account, this time of a young Palestinian woman learning and growing amid the hardships and restrictions of Israeli military-occupied Jerusalem.

Miral's reception however, could not have been more different from that of *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly's*.

When the film premiered last Sept. at the Venice Film Festival, reviews were scathing.

Now, several months later, *Miral* holds a horrific 16 percent rating on the aggregate site Rotten Tomatoes, and has grossed less than \$900,000.

Could a film with such high profile personnel — backed by The Weinstein Company — re-

ally be that bad?

Yes, sadly, it can.

Rula Jebreal, a Palestinian journalist, adapted the screenplay from her own novel, which is a largely autobiographical look into her youth in and around her time spent at the Dar Al-Tifel Institute.

If you're wondering what this particular institute is, don't worry.

The film spends the first 40 minutes painting a random and incomplete history of its founding.

That the movie's namesake/protagonist doesn't even appear until almost halfway through the film is a perfect example of how, despite the makers' intentions, *Miral* spreads itself too thin.

The film opens with a funeral before jumping back to a 1948 Christmas function run by an Americanized Vanessa Redgrave, played by Bertha Spafford, who oddly appears to retain her English accented inflections. (Her screen time can't total more than two minutes.) Eddie (Willem Dafoe) is her nephew, a UN type.

But our focus is meant to rest upon Hind Hussein (Hiam Abbass), a Palestinian woman who later comes across 55 orphaned children hanging out in the street.

The audience doesn't really know what's going on because Schnabel, for some reason, has made the "artistic" executive decision to take away the subtitles while the hoard exchanges words with Hussein in Arabic.

Hussein takes them home and feeds them, and after some time, these 55 children grow into more.

New digs are involved, Dafoe's character reappears to lend a hand and the Dar Al-Tifel Institute is established.

Then, all of a sudden, a Tarantino-like character title drops down on the screen, announcing the arrival of "Nadia."

Nadia, fed up with the sexual abuse she suffers at the hands of her employer's husband, escapes to become a belly dancer. One day she socks a woman on a bus and is carted off to jail.

Jail seems to mean more characters like "Fatima," a nurse who maybe killed someone while watching a Polanski movie in theaters.

Her purpose in the film is not entirely clear. At this point, *Miral* is shaping up to be a Middle Eastern Robert Altman movie, if Altman decided he couldn't allow each character more than 10 minutes of screen time.

Somewhere down the line, Nadia has a child, *Miral*, who we meet when she is seven years old. Shortly thereafter, Nadia — not so sane, at this point — fran-

tically demands that her husband tell her of *Miral's* whereabouts, when she is only at school.

Nadia then proceeds to drown herself in the ocean. Her husband sends *Miral* away to school at the Dar Al-Tifel Institute.

So, now that Schnabel's spent an hour getting all of that hubbub out of the way, we can get down to the supposed heart of the story, which more or less

absolutely shocks her.

Schnabel includes both documentary footage and reenactments in his illustration of the longstanding and violent Arab-Israeli conflict.

The situation only worsens for *Miral*, as she soon falls in love with a Palestinian militant whose terrorist plots get her into trouble with the law.

All the while, she fights to

credibly boring.

The film is not at all cohesive as it jumps throughout time, never once properly fleshing out any of the storylines it ineffectively juggles.

The political overtones become undertones; the conflict's presence is only truly felt in fits and starts.

The imagery is beautiful and the acting is perfectly fine, but the film lacks overall direction.

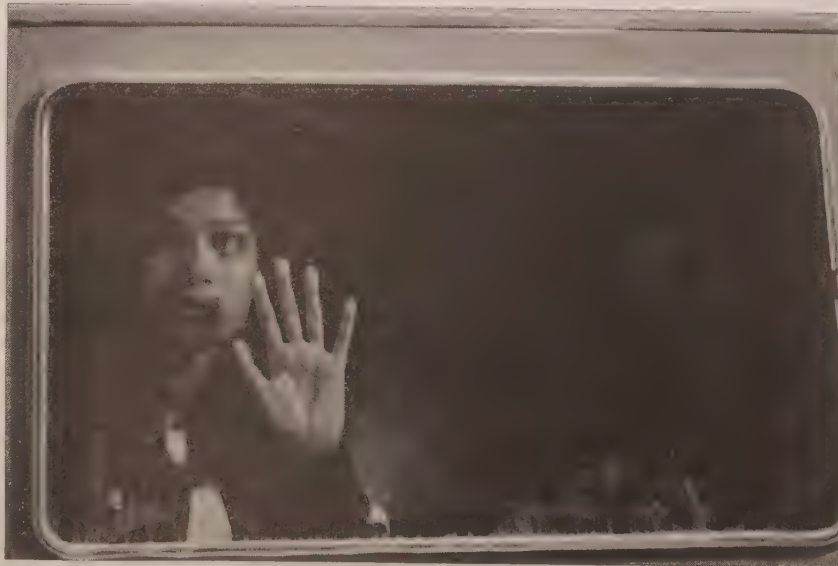
Its ambitious aims — attempts to capture several layers of the Palestinian struggle — are ultimately the film's undoing. *Miral* also neglects to examine the Israeli perspective.

The inclusion of a young Jewish woman (played by Schnabel's daughter, Stella) who is in love with a Palestinian man, gives negligible insight into the so-called enemy's mind.

By the film's close, the quantity of underdeveloped characters was mindblowing.

Even though their film was an absolute letdown, Schnabel and Jebreal can at least walk away from the production basking in the light of their newly found romantic relationship — which led Schnabel to divorce his second wife. Love truly does conquer all, even talent. Isn't that nice.

Miral is currently playing at The Charles. Don't run, don't walk. Don't see it at all.



COURTESY OF WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM

Title character *Miral*, played by Freida Pinto, yearns to understand her people's struggle despite her upbringing.

transpires in 1988.

Miral, now 17 (played by *Slumdog Millionaire's* Freida Pinto), is assigned by an aged Hussein to teach at a Palestine refugee camp. Having spent most of her formative years enclosed safely within the institute's walls, the harsh reality of her people's struggle

understand her people's plight, while simultaneously staying true to Hussein's educational and peaceful teachings.

The most incredible contradiction accomplished by *Miral* is that, in spite of the significant and engrossing nature of its subject matter, it manages to be in-

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Wham City visual wizard Jimmy Joe Roche talks Baltimore scene

By JONAH FURMAN
Staff Writer

This past Sunday, the Baltimore Curators Series, in conjunction with Hopkins's own Digital Media Center and the venerated Transmodern Festival, brings contemporary artists Jim Drain, Joe DeNardo and Kari Altmann to speak in Mattin's Second Decade Society Room, right here on the Homewood campus.

The News-Letter sat down with Jimmy Joe Roche, Baltimore artist, Wham Citizen, DMC employee and mastermind behind the event, to discuss his past, present and future in Baltimore and beyond. Here's our conversation, if a bit chopped and screwed.

News-Letter (N-L): Explain what you do.

Jimmy Joe Roche (JJR): Well, I'm a video artist and also a sculptor. I also work in the Digital Media Center and occasionally I teach in the film department here at Hopkins.

We recently — I was working with Linda DeLibero — wrote some grants that got funded for the spring of 2012, so I'm excited because there's some classes dealing with sound and cinema and local filmmakers as sort of teachers of filmmaking with a focus on locality. So I'm excited about that.

N-L: Thinking about local filmmakers, to what extent is there a Baltimore arts community and to what extent is there a Baltimore film community within that? And are you a part of that community?

JJR: Well, I know a lot of video artists, or a good deal of artists who are working in Baltimore or at least have a fairly, I don't know, have a relationship with the city in some way.

I mean I know that there are also a lot of budding filmmakers and then, you know, people like John Waters, who's obviously quite established internationally. So I think that there's a lot of energy moving in that direction.

You know, as a video artist . . . for the last few years I've been working a lot basically by myself, kind of insular in my studio or my home, setting up these scenes which are very isolated, almost like video art horror movies in terms of the isolation.

I mean, I think I took the YouTube model of people just sitting in front of their webcam and sort of applied it philosophically to my work for the last few years, so it was always just me in front of the camera, and I felt that that was a way to connect with the medium of putting video art on the Internet, at least at first.

A lot of my work, I'll put it on YouTube first. And then a year later it'll be in a museum or a gallery.

But now I feel like I'm; I shot a film in the Netherlands with my friend Dan Deacon, and we just finished that film, and that's a 17-minute film and a lot more sort of narrative than my other work I've been making recently.

So I feel like . . . my radar is turned on a little bit more to the film world of Baltimore, and I'm starting to pay attention to a lot more things that are happening that maybe I wasn't as aware of in the last few years, which is cool.

N-L: You talk about how your work is isolated, but how does



COURTESY OF WWW.INCUBATE.ORG
Jimmy Joe Roche, with Wham City musician and buddy Dan Deacon, has made an impact on Baltimore since moving from N.Y.

Wham City figure into that? How much is it a collaborative group and how much is it just a collection of individual artists?

JJR: Well, recently I'd say, for sure, there's been more of an emphasis, maybe in the last year-ish. Okay, well for me, I think Wham City is a lot of my friends, and we all share art together and kind of have these strange, long dialogues about art and other things.

But I think I'm less involved in some of the group activities like the Comedy Tour or some of the plays they did a few years ago. And occasionally I'll — especially with Dan — we'll collaborate over the years on different projects.

And I have helped put on shows and helped to book part of Whartscape; the video portion that was, two years ago, at the BMA.

So I've been involved, but I think my tendency as an artist, especially in the last five years, has really been this kind of hermeticism and isolation to some degree in terms of my work — with my projects with Dan maybe being the exclusion from the rule, with Ultimate Reality and Hilvarenbeek. So what is Wham City?

I went to SUNY Purchase, and one time, a long time ago, I walked into this giant room they used to have there. I mean it was like a massive bunker; you could park a plane inside of it or something.

And Dan was booking shows there, but I had never met him . . . it was almost empty and all the lights were off, but there was this band, Arab on Radar, playing in the background and they had, like, strobe lights on.

And it sort of blew my mind a little bit. I had never seen music like that before. And then I met Dan through that, and we kind of became friends. We were sharing CDs with one another — I gave him some black metal, and he gave me, like, you know, Anal Cunt or something.

Over time we became sort of friends and then we started living together in this apartment on campus which we lived in for many years, and then Dina [Kellerman] was dating Dan at the time, so the three of us were all living together.

That was sort of the beginning of this enduring friendship that grew with a large cast of people . . . And my friend Robby, who lived in Florida at the time, would come visit me and [he]

met all those guys and we would all hang out together.

So those guys all moved to Baltimore, and I stayed in New York and Florida for a little while, about a year and a half, before I moved to Baltimore.

At that time they were living in the first Wham City space, which was a house. It was in the Copycat, a big building where they would book shows and just get, you know, obliterated, and put on pretty awesome shows.

And there [were] a couple bands that started out of that, and Dan [Deacon] and Videohippos [were] around at that point and starting to play a lot more shows, and Blood Baby . . . So that was sort of the beginning of this thing called Wham City. It was a group of people living in a house.

And then we moved to another part of the Copycat, and continued it for another year. And I was living there and putting on more shows, and we had the first Whartscape there, which we booked in our house — or in our warehouse, I should say.

Eventually we got evicted, and sort of moved into little different module houses, and Whartscape became a big . . . I mean, Dan was the driving force behind the festival [but] of course many, many people helped to make it happen and many Wham City members worked extremely hard.

So I think it started with friendships, and people [who like] to put on shows and party together. And then those people eventually became artists, who were showing themselves and putting on larger shows, and working with other people outside of the collective.

But there's a kind of thread of friendship, and I think some kind of aesthetic, but it's hard to pin down. I don't know what it is really.

N-L: Right, so I guess the next two questions: Why Baltimore, and is there a Wham City aesthetic, or maybe even a Baltimore aesthetic?

JJR: I think, you know . . . At the time we were all in New York at SUNY and we were all looking for a giant warehouse space in New York and it was really too expensive, and a little disheartening.

The New York scene at that point, felt to us — you know, that we knew of at that point, and in hindsight I was probably fairly naïve about a lot of things — seemed very hard to be a place where you were starting off.

And especially starting off where you were experimenting artistically in a way where maybe you failed as many times as you succeeded.

So there was a kind of "experi-

mental exuberance with a lot of the art that we were doing, that I think was rough around the edges, and sometimes really exciting, and sometimes probably caustic, annoying and unsuccessful.

And I think that for me, that's still some of the most exciting art that I can be around. I think I still . . . probably work in a way where I fall on my ass as much as I succeed or make something that's really great, great in the sense of successful or that I feel good about it.

So Baltimore felt like a place where there was space to be raw, to be young, to experiment, to pay cheap rent, really cheap rent. The rent for space ratio was completely flipped on its head.

We had a friend who was delivering pizzas once a week here, and that was how he supported himself, delivering pizza one day a week.

So that was like the mythology. Everybody was like, "Hey man, Mickey's delivering pizzas once a week, man! Holy shit, that's amazing, I can't believe it!"

It seemed like a place where there was space for people to try something new. That there wasn't this giant shroud of pressure.

For me, when I came here, what I found out pretty quickly within a year-ish is that, you know, you can still kind of get up to New York and do some stuff.

You can show your art or you can put on a show or whatever it is, and it's not inaccessible from Baltimore. You can still get up to New York and do something, but then when you go home, you're kind of in this whole other place.

And that, for me, when I began to live in Baltimore, became pretty liberating, I think. I felt like I could disappear.

I mean, when I was in New York, it's hard to describe, but I felt like I was always kind of in the headlights or something . . . psychologically, obviously no one really gave a shit about me at all, but that's what it felt like. And in Baltimore I remember having this feeling within the first year or two of living here; just feeling like I could disappear a little bit.

N-L: Yeah, Baltimore's kind of weird in that — you know, at least a lot of students at Hopkins think of Baltimore as not-quite-New York. It's not like, say, Chicago, where it's its own thing, because it's almost connected by virtue of being on the East Coast.

So how much is Baltimore an end-in-itself and how much do people wish they could use it as a springboard into New York?

JJR: Well, most of the people I know, who are artists here, would never live in New York. I think I know a lot of people who are pretty dead-set on staying here indefinitely, and really love and care about the city.

I think as a visual artist, it can be — it is — a difficult place to show art.

I think places like Nudashank Gallery are really exciting to me because I think those guys are really smart about how they're representing themselves.

They're starting to get the kind of rep and energy and just buzz around them as an entity for exhibiting artwork. That can be really useful and positive for young artists (and any artists) to show there.

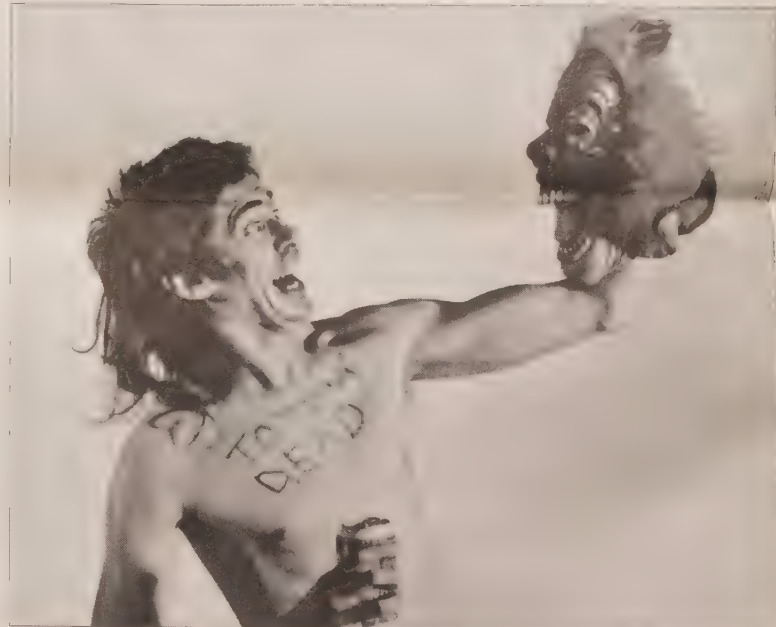
And that is the kind of energy that more Baltimore art spaces need to keep artists here and to give them an outlet.

It's hard for me to describe exactly what it is. Because on one level, we could be talking about purely money.

I could say, "Well, the reason that it's hard to be a painter in Baltimore is because it's difficult to sell paintings because there are no galleries," and you know, there are a few, and they do sell, etc., but it's a different world.

But that's not really what I'm talking about.

I don't sell any artwork, and I still feel this thing. So it's more this kind of intangible, difficult-to-pin-down essence, of really just an energy that a contemporary art space can have that's really exciting.



COURTESY OF WWW.INLOG.COM
Roche is best known for his psychedelic art, films and other visual multimedia. He is also an actor.

I feel like Nudashank is starting to get interconnected with a lot of [other] really interesting contemporary art spaces and a vein of contemporary art which I think is important. There needs to be more of that, and I think that that will help keep artists in Baltimore.

Obviously, I think that the Baker Artist Awards, just having become a new prize, so now there's two \$25,000 prizes — I was sad to see that they cut the individual artist grants that they used to give from the Baltimore Office Promotion of the Arts; Baker's trying to pick up the slack on them.

On another level, I just really do think that there's a lot of really exciting stuff happening here. There's just a really good energy, and there's a lot of really interesting experimental musicians and artists and spaces, and a really strong community of people who are pretty supportive and positive about everyone else.

A lot of people who are involved in that scene are musicians who tour, so there's a kind of gateway from Baltimore to the rest of the United States and maybe to Europe and the world.

I think the music scene is a kind of entranceway for that kind of local eclecticism that opens a doorway to, say, travel.

Places like the Red Room, or even Floristree, which is a warehouse venue, bring people in from all over the world and the United States.

And then Nudashank's bringing a lot of artists down from New York, and so there

feels like there's a kind of dialogue that's happening, where Baltimore can be a place where not only all these local Baltimore artists can do great things, and

show really interesting music and films and art in these wonderful DIY spaces, but then there's this constant opportunity to meet really interesting people from other places

So it's not insulated in that way, but still feels

very local and has its own flavor that's very unique.

It's kind of got this unique local DIY-venue experimental flavor, but there's a constant influx of people all over the place coming through and an opportunity to expand your own experience through that. Which I think is exciting for people.

A lot of people that I know are broke; it's hard to find work here. Although I guess it's tough like that all over the country, so I don't know.

N-L: But are people saying this stuff about Cleveland? Does Baltimore have some sort of edge, or is it just lucky?

JJR: I don't know. I haven't toured enough to know that firsthand . . . I haven't traveled the country extensively on the level that I know other people have, so I wouldn't be the best person to answer that question.



COURTESY OF WWW.LIKEYOU.COM

Roche, who also works at the Digital Media Center, uses unique colors and designs in many of his pieces.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Friday nights at Baltimore's Bourbon Street are often bustling; crowds of people congregate on the various levels of the club to listen to the headliner, whether popular or not and alcohol flows through dancing bodies.

This past Friday, Bourbon Street felt particularly full, as crowds from all over Md. came to see Beats Antique.

The band's aesthetic, a mix of drum heavy electronic music and world fusion, is fast and multifaceted.

Beats Antique draws inspiration from tango, break dance and Indian dance. Their sound harkens back to ancient Middle Eastern tunes and yet feels astoundingly modern.

The medley of electronic pre-recorded melodies and live drums often features appearances from the violin and a variety of percussion instruments.

dance floor spoke a mixture of French and Moroccan Arabic to his friend while intermittently singing an afro-beat-inspired number.

The opening act was certainly good, but not particularly inspiring.

Eskmo, stage name for Brendan Angelides, a San Francisco native who began producing music in the past decade, played a set of eclectic, often bizarre, electronic tunes that seemed to blend into each other.

Perhaps the most memorable part of Eskmo's act was its seemingly spontaneous nature within a genre that often feels

David Satori, Tommy Cappel and, of course, the seductive Zoe Jakes moved onto the stage with their respective percussion ensembles, thunderous applause resonated from all levels of Bourbon Street.

Zoe Jakes, previously a dancer for The Yard Dogs Road Show, sauntered onto the stage and

made everyone swoon with her incredible belly dancing talent.

The band played a mix of their popular songs and their less well-known tunes. Their hits like, "Beauty Beats" and "Egyptic" were fantastically played.

The group used a mixture of live and pre-recorded, syncopated and gunfire drumming.

The intermingling of ceaseless beats and hypnotic melodies was perfectly suited for a night of dancing.

But, aside from the distinguishable hits and the band's decision to dress up in animal costumes during their encore, the concert often felt lifeless.

A lot of the band's songs seem to follow the same trajectory and often share similar refrains or harmonies.

Though the sound Beats Antique has is both interesting and unique, more variety within their music would undoubtedly be welcomed.

Amelie Nkodo, a freshman who went to the concert remarked about the show, "It was a really great crowd and they were really into the music. The problem is that the music was kind of repetitive at times. The belly dancer was hot, though."

— Briana Last

Last Week Live Beats Antique Bourbon Street Ballroom



COURTESY OF WWW.AARONROGOSIN.COM

San Franciscan experimental world fusion band Beats Antique took on Bourbon Street last Friday night.

The crowd was lively on all three levels of the Bourbon Street dance floors that were open to the public. Girls with glow sticks dangling from their bodies hula-hooped in the midst of scraggly looking men who spoke various foreign tongues.

A man in the middle of the

over produced and lacking of a live feel.

Eskmo ripped paper on the Bourbon Street stage and played objects as makeshift instruments.

However, the crowd was even more riled up when Beats Antique entered the stage. When

concert remarked about the show, "It was a really great crowd and they were really into the music. The problem is that the music was kind of repetitive at times. The belly dancer was hot, though."

AllNighter seniors bid adieu in final showcase

ALLNIGHTERS, FROM B3
in which the AllNighters blow off rehearsal to enjoy some time on the Beach. Charmingly funny as with all of the group's jokes, the video included junior Aidan Fisher in a speedo and was splendidly accompanied by freshman Johnny Thibau on the piano.

Phil Collins's "You'll Be in My Heart" with Paul Han as soloist kicked off the last set of the evening. An old favorite, the song has been with the AllNighters for the past two years, but was spiced up this time around with a slightly faster tempo and some absolutely magnificent choreo — who doesn't love bass percussion emphasized with boys in vests banging on their chests, gorilla-style?

The number was brought away from its heartwarming origins to something both funny and sweet, like if a sitcom were to become an a cappella song.

The AllNighters have always excelled at their group numbers, and their next number, Radiohead's "Creep," was no exception. This piece's arrangement was absolutely gorgeous. And "Creep," which in itself is already a poignantly eerie song, was made that much more weirdly-awesome by the group's subtle crescendos and flawless harmonizing.

Cheers and laughs closed out the evening as sophomore Anthony Collins threw a little country into the mix with his impeccable performance of "Boondocks" by Little Big Town, which was followed by the encore of "You Sexy Thing" with drawling soloist freshman John Thibau.

Though they had been enjoying themselves all night, the AllNighters really let themselves loose on these final numbers and you could tell that they were really having fun with it all.

There was definitely more than just a little gyrating.

So despite a couple F-bombs,

alarming hip movements and overall ridiculousness, the AllNighters really did manage to keep it classy at their spring concert.

Perhaps it was because of their ironed slacks and dapper vests, but more likely, it was because of their exquisite musicality, unfaltering sense of humor and beautiful voices.



YOUNGBIN PARK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
This generation of AllNighters showcases graduating seniors.

ARTIST
Antony and the Johnsons
ALBUM
Swanlights EP
LABEL
Sony/Columbia
RELEASED
May 3, 2011

When an album doesn't live up to the massive hype surrounding it, it somehow becomes even more of a disappointment.

All the pieces are here on this disc, the latest from indie darlings Antony & The Johnsons: Antony Hegarty's magnificent, crystal-pure vocals, ominously stark lyrics and taut instrumentation.

But the overall effect of *Swanlights*, their follow-up to the crit-

ically-acclaimed masterpiece *The Crying Light*, is extremely inaccessible and at times utterly morose with not as much payoff as this listener would like.

Swanlights is definitely not an album you can listen to once and feel at home with.

The opening track "Everything Is New" is stilted and choppy but when you listen to it multiple times you realize that that's precisely what they were after, so that when the track finally coalesces into its orchestral conclusion, all-swelling keys and Hegarty's rafter-reaching vocals, it's something beautiful and wholly different from what the song was.

Antony & The Johnsons is clearly focused on overall effects and aesthetics, and each song is like a miniature world.

The problem with that, though, is that there's no real cohesiveness to *Swanlights*, and no outstanding songs like in *The Crying Light*.

Each cut has its own strengths, but as an album, it flounders. Hegarty often sounds uncertain, less the powerhouse that he's



COURTESY OF WWW.DAEMONSTV.COM

Matt Lauer, playing himself, calls Tracy Jordan, played by Tracy Morgan, a true artist who feels things that others don't.

30 Rock still on after 100th episode

ROCK, FROM B3

the only show on your network starring a 42-year-old woman? Ranked number one among men 18 to 49 — months left in prison?"

Lemon is talking about *30 Rock*, of course, whose ratings keep dropping despite shelving several Emmys over the seasons. "100" entertained several subplots, including Jenna Maroney's musings over pregnancy, Jack Donaghy's regret over staying with Kabletown (K for kindness) and the return of Lemon's ex, but the main mission was getting Jordan back on the show.

Jordan, like the writers, believes that he can't be funny anymore now that he's a Hollywood darling with an Oscar under his belt.

He goes through a mini-crisis in his limo, asking Lemon on the phone as he holds back tears, "What is FarmAid? Is it a drink? Is it a drug? Is it a bandage you put on a barn? See! That's the kind of lazy stand-up I'll never do again."

In celebration of their 100th episode, *30 Rock* put on their most self-referential show this season.

While always playfully meta, the show embraced the idea of not just being a show about a show, but a possibly cancelled show about a possibly cancelled show.

It was a smart move on their part considering the uncertain future of *30 Rock*.

Over the last few weeks the show has fielded rumors about Baldwin leaving the show and possible cancellation after the end of the 6th season when most of the actors' contracts will expire.

Cancellation on the horizon or not, *30 Rock* put together a solid, although unnecessarily long, episode — "Let's not be the worst thing on television tonight," Lemon declares at the beginning to enthusiastic cheers.

Everyone gets roasted in "100," from Tom Hanks — who runs the Hollywood A-list with Clooney and webmaster Pitt — to Brooklyn hipsters, who thwart an iconic Jordan attempt to debase himself as he brandishes a toy light saber while yelling "I am a Jedi" in his tighty-whities.

"Hey look!" a man sporting

obligatory half-rimmed glasses and an unkempt beard points and says, "Tracy Jordan is ironically re-appropriating his bad past behavior as a commentary on the Fitzgerald dictum that there are no second acts in American life. I'm going to take a picture of him with my old-fashioned camera!"

There were also nods to Michael McDonald, Nate Berkus and Sarah Palin, and a cameo of Bono riding in the limo with Jordan. *30 Rock* stayed true to flirting with political incorrectness, with Jordan asking why he can pull a Don Imus and Maroney's attempts to trick Kenneth into impregnating her, warning him that if he refuses she'll find him in his sleep because "It's not rape if neither party really wants it."

Dennis, Lemon's ex from earlier seasons, returns sans beeper but sporting a new array of '90s tech and lines like "My motorcycle got impounded for being parked too awesome" and "You lose weight or something? Your neck, it looks looser."

He tries to woo Lemon, who called him in a moment of weakness (high on gas), and expresses words of love intertwined with stupidity that are a refreshing change from Lemon's last boyfriend, Carol, played by Matt Damon.

"I'm still smart enough to know," Dennis announces when Liz rejects him again, "That I'll never do better than you, Liz Lemon, because you're a cook in the bedroom and a whore in the kitchen."

Donaghy, as usual, was the highlight of the episode with his deadpan brilliance.

Although the appearance of past Jack, sideways Jack and future Jack were predictable, his tux-wearing alter-egos provided great set-ups for lines like "It's called power clashing" and "I'm a shark, look at my claws."

He took a stab at himself, advising Jordan that the best way to lose respect is to return to the show.

"It doesn't matter if you've worked with Meryl Streep or Anthony Hopkins," Donaghy as Baldwin as Donaghy says, referencing his star-studded résumé which includes films like *It's Complicated*, co-starring Streep, and *The Edge*, alongside Hopkins. "You want . . . to hit rock bottom again? Go on network television."

30 Rock does best when it riffs on itself, making for an endearing cast that you know just the right amount of too-much about.

Like *Saturday Night Live*, *30 Rock* has a chance to get better before it gets worse, and will always be able to pull out some great episodes.

The rehashed plotlines are constantly criticized, but other television shows have survived on worse.

30 Rock's biggest fault is peaking so high so soon, giving it nowhere to go but down now. Add to this the fact that it's self-aware and the slightest misstep becomes a dealbreaker, knocking the show off its parody pedestal and leaving it a bumbling mess. The writers have talent but no room to falter when expectations abound.

Although the show's future is rocky at best, its impending cancellation may be for the better — fans never want to see a good show drag on (history has shown that viewers aren't interested in old J.D. and Turk high-fiving new people) and its popularity has already helped propel the stars into fame, giving Baldwin a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and Fey a platform to launch her new book, *Bossypants*.

The show's already been renewed for at least one more season, so all there is to do is keep watching before it ends up on the shelf next to your *Arrested Development* season DVDs.

NEW VIBRATIONS

come to be known as.

The most succinct way to describe this disc is esoteric. It really does resist interpretation in a lot of ways, and those that appreciated the group's earlier efforts may balk at the cracked vocals of "The Great White Ocean" or the abstractness of "Fletta," which finds Hegarty pairing up with Bjork.

Their voices pair beautifully together, but it's hard to tell what that beauty actually amounts to.

Overall, *Swanlights* might have benefited greatly from a few more accessible tunes thrown in — no less aesthetically pleasing, but something that might have allowed the listener to connect

with Hegarty more and feel more

grounded in his gorgeously amorphous world.

Perhaps the closest thing to that is "Thank You For Your Love," recently released as the first single off the disc. It's simple and subdued, quietly anchored by

drumbeats as the song launches out but soon it's a fanfare of saxophone.

It's somewhat reminiscent of "Thank You" by Led Zeppelin, and the burst of actual energy is a welcome change from the minimal, even at times plodding, pace of the rest of the album.

Plus, the sheer ebullience of Hegarty's voice on lines like "Now there's a reason to wake up

each day / A reason to shake my blues away / Now I am whole, a lucky soul," makes the whole song a joy to listen to.

Still, there are moments when the group's experimentation and willingness to reinvent themselves hits home.

The title track, "Swanlights," is six minutes of moody, yearning loveliness, proving that when you give Antony & The Johnsons time to grow and prove themselves, they are as amazing as their reputation would portend.

Warping his voice through distortion, Hegarty creates a track that is subtle and blackly brilliant.

Overall, *Swanlights* is an album that gets richer with each listen, although it is definitely not the peak of what Antony & The Johnsons can do with their talent.

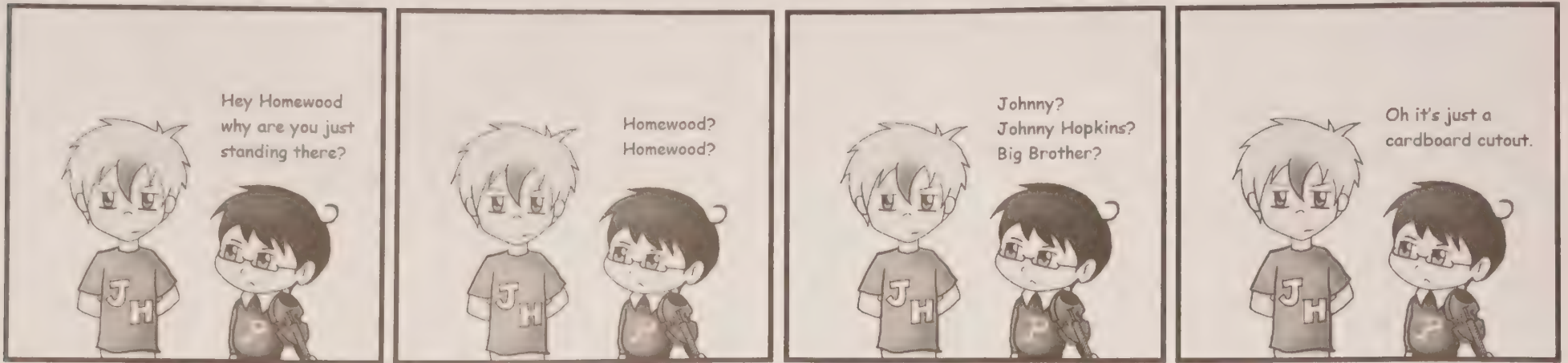
This disc proves that they are as artistically inspired as always, and it will be interesting to see in which direction they head next.

— Melanie Love

CARTOONS, ETC.

Blue Jay Brigade

By Kevin Stoll Li



HOPKINS EASILY LIVING LIFE



*These are real violations of human rights that have been ignored by the media. Forgot politics and stand for human rights.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



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Scientists argue that the change in color of pepper moths was due to natural selection

Geneticists explain early example of evolution

By **ALEENA LAKHANPAL**
Staff Writer

The Industrial Revolution set off many changes that resound even today. Technology improved, manufacturing blossomed and jobs were abundant. Unfortunately, all of these advances occurred at the expense of the environment.

In England, smokestacks belched out huge clouds of soot from burning coal. Skies darkened, and the air became polluted. Among all of these changes came a change in *Biston betularia*, the peppered moth that inhabits the United Kingdom. As soot blackened their environment, the normally light moths became jet black.

For years, people accepted the evolution of the light-colored typica moth to the darker carbonaria moth as evidence of Darwin's theory of natural selection, but only lately have scientists started to understand the molecular mechanism that gave rise to the change in wing color. Researchers at the University of Liverpool have located the locus in the moth genome that produces wing color.

This locus is similar in both moths and butterflies and is significant because it is the site of the many mutations and recombinations that result in wing coloring and patterning, which are essential to the organisms' chances of survival.

For example, certain butterflies may mimic the bright colors of toxic species to avoid predation. In the case of these moths, the light colors and black speckles allowed the moth to blend in perfectly with trees while the jet black moth had a higher chance

of being eaten. However, as the environment became more and more polluted, the black moths were able to better camouflage themselves in their surroundings, making the typica moth more likely to become a quick snack.

Consequently, Britons saw an increase in the population of the carbonaria moths while the lighter types became much harder to find. This became one of the signature species that correlated to Darwin's idea of "survival of the fittest."

However, it was in how the black patterning developed that raised questions about evolution. While the general location of the locus is known, researchers have not yet identified exactly which genes and which regulatory elements are involved in producing the wing color.

They do know where in the genome they should be looking, considering the fact that every carbonaria moth collected from the 80 different sites had the same genetic markers in the area of interest. They also believe that instead of there being several mutations involved in forming the black moth, there really is only one that shortly predated the Industrial Revolution, but became more prominent as the skies of England became darker.

Coincidentally, the British Isles worked on cleaning up the air. Now that it is considerably more breathable and significantly clearer, there has been an increase of the typica form of moth. This again emphasizes the role of natural selection in this process. While the exact molecular mechanism has not yet been elucidated, scientists know where to start.

Hubble inches closer to seeing the Big Bang

By **MAHA HAQQANI**
Staff Writer

Astronomers have discovered one of the youngest galaxies in the distant universe. Containing stars that formed 13.5 billion years ago, merely 200 million years after the Big Bang, the finding addresses questions regarding the origins of the first galaxies and how the early universe evolved.

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope was the first to spot the new galaxy. Detailed observations of light from the galaxy recorded by the W. M. Keck Observatory in Mauna Kea, Hawaii revealed the light from the galaxy dates back to when the universe was only 950 million years old. The universe formed about 13.7 billion years ago.

Infrared data from the Hubble Space Telescope and NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope revealed that the galaxy's stars are quite old, having formed when the universe was at the very young age of 200 million years.

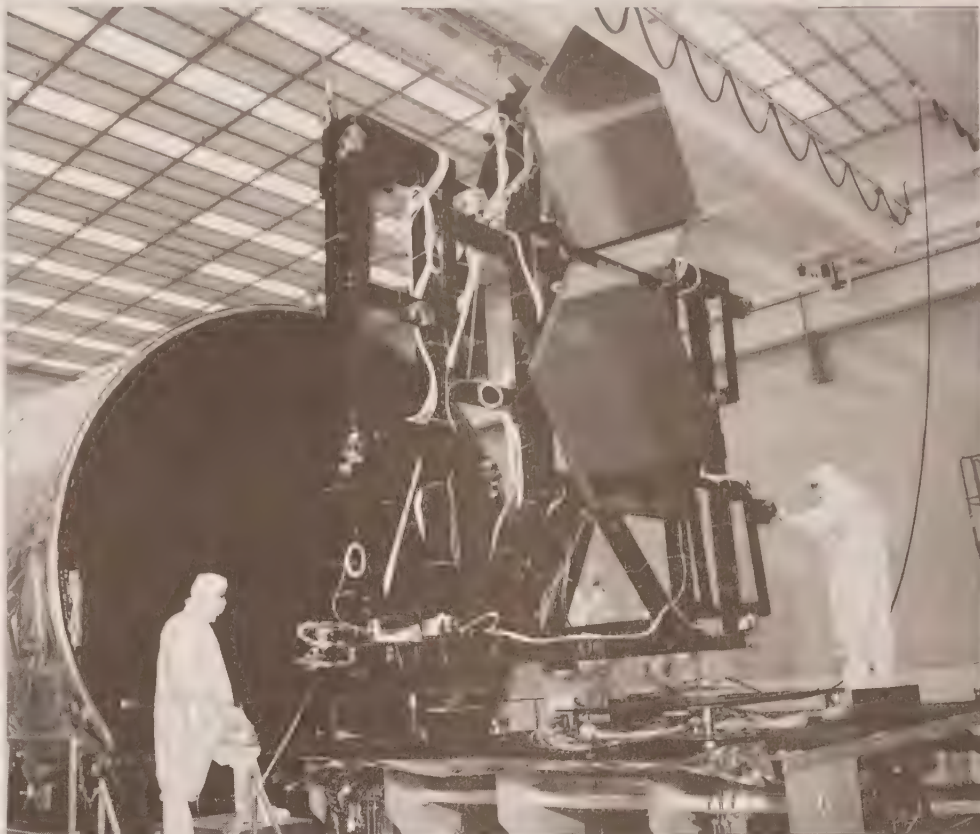
Johan Richard of the Center for Astronomical Research, Observatory of Lyon, France, lead author of a new study accepted for publication in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, believes that the finding challenges theories regarding when galaxies formed in the first years of the universe, and that it could even help solve the mystery of how the hydrogen fog that filled up the early universe was cleared.

This is not the most distant galaxy ever observed, but it is one of the youngest to be observed so clearly. Normally, such galaxies are very faint and therefore difficult to study. In this case, however, the galaxy's image is being naturally magnified.

The presence of a massive cluster of galaxies, Abell 383, located in front of it, makes it appear 11 times brighter than it would without this phenomenon, and is known as the "gravitational lensing" effect.

"Without this big lens in space, we could not study galaxies this faint with currently available observing facilities," co-author of the study, Eiichi Egami of the University of Arizona in Tucson, said. "Thanks to nature, we have this great opportunity to see our universe as it was eons ago."

The findings could help explain how the early universe became "reionized." At some point in its early history, our universe transitioned from the so-called



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NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) will be able to peer farther back into time than the Hubble Space Telescope.

dark ages to a period of light as the first galaxies and stars began to form.

The light from the stars ionized neutral hydrogen atoms floating through space, leaving them with a charge. Ultraviolet light could now travel through what had previously been an obscuring fog.

The discovery of a galaxy possessing stars that formed only 200 million years after the Big Bang helps astronomers constrain this period of cosmic reionization.

When the galaxy in question was developing, its hot, young stars would have ionized sig-

nificant amounts of the neutral hydrogen atoms in space. A population of similar galaxies is likely to have contributed to this reionization, but they are too faint to see or study since they do not all experience the magnifying effects of gravitational lensing.

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), scheduled to launch later in the decade, will be able to see the faint galaxies without the gravitational lensing effect.

The JWST is a successor to Hubble and Spitzer, and will see infrared light from the missing group of early galaxies. The

mission is expected to deliver some of the universe's greatest secrets.

"Seeing a galaxy as it appeared near the beginning of the universe is an awe-inspiring feat enabled by innovative technology and the fortuitous effect of gravitational lensing," Jon Morse, Astrophysics Division director at NASA's headquarters in Washington, D.C., said. "Observations like this open a window across space and time, but more importantly, they inspire future work to one day peer at the stars that lit up the universe following the Big Bang."

Alzheimer's drug helps initiate neuron repair

By **VIVEK SINANAN**
Staff Writer

Researchers at the Hopkins School of Medicine have discovered a possible treatment for traumatic nerve injuries from an unexpected source: an experimental drug used for combating Alzheimer's disease.

Their study, published in *The Journal of Neuroscience* earlier this month, investigates the effects of BACE1, a proteolytic enzyme, on neuron cells. BACE1 cleaves another protein that is necessary for the formation of myelin, a fatty substance that surrounds the elongated areas of neurons. Myelin increases the speed and rate that electrical signals are transmitted by neurons.

High levels of BACE1 are seen in the brains of Alzheimer's patients. The protein is thought to be involved in the buildup of the protein plaques in these patients' brains. These plaques are directly responsible for the decrease in electrical signals and thus, are responsible for the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

Because of this, scientists believe BACE1 inhibition could serve as a viable method for treating Alzheimer's. However, what the team was most interested in was seeing how BACE1 activity affects the regenerative capability of damaged neurons. Most damage to neurons falls under two broad categories: peripheral neuropathy, which is any physical damage to neurons that are not located in the brain or spinal cord, and spinal cord injuries.

Using mice as a model system, the researchers examined two groups: The first, those that expressed the gene that codes for BACE1 at normal levels, acted as the control. The second were knockout mice: the gene for BACE1 had been completely removed from their DNA, rendering the mice incapable of synthesizing the protein.

Neuronal damage was induced by two methods: by using paclitaxel, a cancer treatment drug that also causes neuronal



COURTESY OF JNNPBMJ.COM

Neuronal degeneration can result in severe muscular atrophy throughout the body.

degeneration, or by using acrylamide, a neurotoxin. Their first observation was that there was no significant change in the initial range of degeneration of axons. The effects of exposure to paclitaxel and acrylamide were independent of whether or not the individual mouse expressed BACE1.

In contrast, there was a marked difference in the subsequent regeneration of the damaged neurons. Knockout mice exhibited an accelerated rate of clearance of the axonal and myelin debris that resulted from the degeneration caused by the toxins.

In knockout mice, debris was almost completely cleared 10 days after treatment in comparison to 15 days in wild-type mice.

They visualized this clearance by introducing a gene for yellow fluorescent protein (YFP) into the mice's DNA. YFP is a derivative of green fluorescent protein (GFP), a green counterpart that naturally occurs in the

species of jellyfish, *Aequorea victoria*. Under a microscope, the debris fluoresced yellow, and the amount of debris was measured at different times. According to the authors, previous studies have determined that the presence of debris negatively affects the ability of damaged neurons to regenerate.

This was supported by their final observation that BACE1 knockout mice exhibited faster regrowth of their elongated parts: there was a higher number of new "axonal sprouts" (the beginnings of new neurons) than compared to neurons of wild-type mice.

The implications of this discovery go far beyond the original purpose of investigating BACE1's role in Alzheimer's. As Mohamed Farah said in a press release, "Anything that speeds nerve regrowth could be enormously helpful to people with nerve injuries caused by a range of injuries and diseases from diabetic neuropathy to motorcycle accidents."

Orangutans develop unique method of fishing

By **SAM OHMER**
Staff Writer

Despite even the most striking similarities, we humans persist in thinking that we're special and different from other animals. However, new evidence presented recently at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists is further narrowing the gap between us humans and our primate relatives.

The new findings relate evidence which specifically shows that Bornean orangutans have

developed their own unique methods of "fishing" for food.

These hungry apes have actually learned to use sticks to poke into ponds and other bodies of water — not necessarily to spear prey, but at least as a means to scare fish out of hiding and into waiting orangutan hands.

Though perhaps not so sophisticated as complex fishing poles with flywheels, lures and counterweights, the tools used by orangutans are nonetheless effective and easy to use. The anthropologists responsible for publishing this latest finding

have reported that several orangutans have seemingly "learned" the technique independently. Other animals have been seen observing their neighbors during their fishing trips, signifying that perhaps the orangutans are also learning to fish by example.

That fishing via the use of tools has emerged in a primate species like orangutans is pretty amazing, but these findings also open up new avenues of thought not only in terms of how we humans look at our primate neighbors, but also in terms of our understanding of how and when our ancestors first learned how to hunt for meat with tools. While we humans are generally good swimmers, orangutans are known to be notoriously bad swimmers.

Interestingly, the orangutans in question probably began their fisher-ape lives quite passively: perhaps one day a hungry orangutan saw a catfish stranded on the shore of a pond and decided to have a nibble.

Fish is a wonderful dietary staple and orangutans have obviously recognized the fact — so much so that their previously passive fishing habits are now quite deliberate and directed. Orangutans are clearly evolving their dietary habits, perhaps in a manner similar to the way in which the diets of early human

SEE ORANGUTANS, PAGE B8



COURTESY OF WWW.OMSLEDU

Observing orangutans fish may provide insight into how humans began to use tools.

Heart stem cells generated from blood cells

By **MELANIE HSU**
Staff Writer

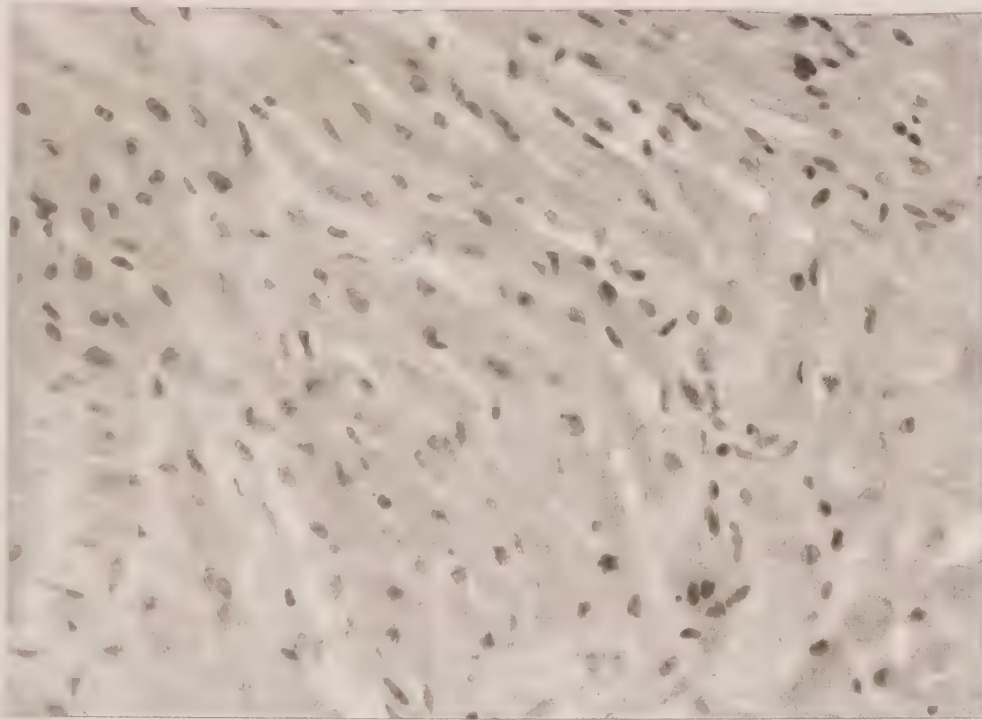
A team of Hopkins scientists recently developed a method to safely turn blood cells into functional cardiac myocytes. The researchers claim that this method produces virus-free heart cells that beat with nearly a 100 percent efficiency.

According to Elias Zambidis, assistant professor of oncology and pediatrics at the Hopkins Institute for Cell Engineering and the Kimmel Cancer Center, many scientists previously doubted that a non-viral method of converting blood cells into cardiac cells existed. While he hopes that other scientists will test this method themselves, he cautions that the cardiac cells are not ready for human testing.

Generally, scientists develop stem cells taken from one source, such as blood, and into another cell type by virus-assisted gene delivery. This converts the blood cells into stem cells at the risk of the virus mutating genes and initiating cancers in the transformed cells. To avoid using a virus, Zambidis's team used plasmids, rings of DNA that degrade after replicating briefly inside cells.

Due to the complexity of the process, Zambidis's team took two years to simplify the environmental conditions, which include growth factors and nutrients, that house the transforming cells. The team found that their recipe worked well for at least 11 different stem cell lines, the more controversial embryonic stem cells and most importantly, stem cell lines generated from adult blood stem cells.

The process was aided by



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This non-viral procedure has a much higher success rate at generating cardiomyocytes from other cells than virus-based methods.

Hopkins postdoctoral scientist Paul Burrige, who extensively studied cardiac cell-creating techniques and charted 48 different variables used to create heart cells such as enzymes, growth factors and the size of compartments used in cell culture plates. After testing many combinations of these variables, he narrowed the choices down to around four to nine essential ingredients at each of the three stages of cardiac development.

Zambidis said that the composition of the growth broth used to house the cells still needs some modification. He also said

that the team recently discovered how to remove the fetal bovine serum, a possible source of unwanted viruses, from one step of the procedure.

Using the new growth medium, the team used cord blood stem cells and a plasmid to transfer seven genes into the stem cells. To allow the plasmid to enter the cells, they delivered an electric pulse to bore tiny holes in the cell surface. Once inside the cell, the plasmids induced the cells to become pluripotent stem cells, a more primitive cell state that can differentiate into a variety of dif-

ferent cell types.

After bathing the pluripotent cells in the simplified growth media, the team used special incubation containers to reduce the oxygen content in the cells to a quarter of the normal atmospheric level. According to Burrige, these procedures aimed to mimic conditions experienced by differentiating cells in embryos. Finally, the team added PVA, a chemical that caused the cells to adhere together.

After nine days, the cells turned into functional cardiac myocytes. Burrige found that the success rate of this procedure was 94.5 percent, compared to 10 percent in most other procedures. When an electrocardiograph was applied to the cells, the resulting rhythm resembled the pulses observed in a normal human heart.

These virus-free cells could eventually be used to test drugs that treat arrhythmia or could be developed into grafts, which could be implanted into heart attack patients.

In addition, Zambidis's team recently developed techniques for converting blood-derived cell lines into retinal, neural and vascular cells.

Orangutans discovered going fishing in Borneo

ORANGUTANS, FROM B7
ancestors changed over time.

Previously, anthropologists believed that meat-eating hadn't become a popular hominid dietary style until just about two million years ago. At this point, the Homo genus had already branched off and hominids were on their way to producing us, Homo sapiens. With this new orangutan evidence, anthropologists are now considering that fishing could have evolved quite early on in the Homo lineage. After all, if a great red ape can do it, why not early hominids?

The traditional take on meat-eating early hominids is that as dietary intake of meat increased, so too did consumption of essential fatty acids. Meats, and fish in particular, are rich in fatty acids, which are crucial for brain development. Thus, the increasing prevalence of carnivorous diets among hominids might have had monumental implications for the evolution of Homo brains. Because modern man's greatest treasure is his frontal lobe, this new evidence from orangutans points out a potential analog with early hominid development. It shows how the learning of simple tactics of taking advantage of the environment might have provid-

ed early human ancestors with a diet fortified for brain health and development.

Of course, it is possible that the orangutans in question somehow picked up their super suave fishing techniques from watching their human cousins — Borneo is in fact inhabited by several million people as well as orangutans. Nevertheless, all it would have taken for Homo species to start fishing is one hominid discovering the wonderful world of sushi; it's likely that tactics such as those used by the orangutans reported here could have spread. Bornean orangutans have been seen fishing in pairs and early hominids could have done likewise.

These findings make it even more obvious how important it is to preserve and to study our cousins, the orangutans. They are obviously quite an intelligent and inventive species, and even more than that, they may provide us with invaluable and incomparable modern analogs for our long dead hominid ancestors. By watching them, we can learn more about ourselves and maybe realize that we're not quite as special as we've always thought.



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Humans and orangutans share 97 percent of their DNA and have similar behaviors.

Experiment fails to find dark matter

Despite major setback, scientists still believe the XENON100 tank may still detect WIMPs

By **MO-YU ZHOU**
Staff Writer

After searching for dark matter for 100 days, the XENON100 tank failed to find any evidence of the material. While the negative result does not mean that dark matter does not exist, it does indicate that it is more elusive than scientists had previously imagined.

XENON100, which is filled with 161 kilograms of chilled liquid xenon and which is buried under 1,400 meters of rock in the Gran Sasso Underground Laboratory in Italy, was designed to detect dark matter particles. The depth at which the tank is located cannot be easily penetrated by cosmic rays, which mimic the behavior of dark matter particles. However, when a dark matter particle strikes a xenon nucleus, it recoils, resulting in light emission and ionization.

Whether or not a dark matter particle has been found is indicated by the ratio of the amount of light emitted to the amount of ionization. However, the experiment has not yielded any results that would indicate the existence of such particles.

The experiment's results were revealed on April 4, when the research team crowded around a computer screen to view the results of their analysis while some of their collaborators watched in Zurich. The analysis covered data obtained between January and June of 2010.

In a few minutes, six dots appeared on the screen, one after the other, indicating

six possible weakly interacting massive particles (WIMPs), or particles that had the desired light emission to ionization ratio. However, a closer look at three of the particles revealed that they were nothing but electronic noise. The remaining three potential WIMPs were also called into question. Background radiation was expected to create two events that looked like WIMPs, and the last extra WIMP could not be claimed as a legitimate detection of dark matter.

This experiment conflicts with other experiments, which have found WIMPs, which are low-mass versions of dark matter particles. This new research is especially significant because it calls into question how we can interpret the results of other experiments.

In addition, the XENON100 experiment hints at limits that exist on the degree to which dark matter interacts with ordinary matter — the upper limit of the interaction strength, this experiment suggests, is a 10th of the best previous estimate.

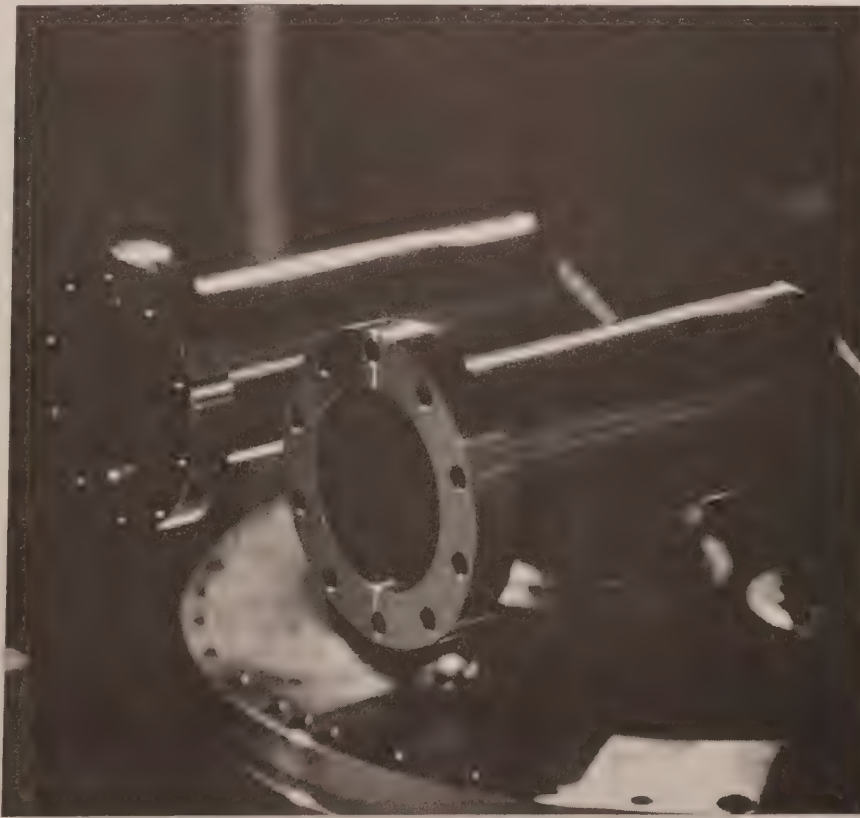
If, however, such interac-

tions are controlled by, say, the sought-after Higgs boson, the XENON100 is capable of investigating such a relationship and the existence of the Higgs boson.

The results of this experiment also call into question some versions of the supersymmetry theory of particle physics. Supersymmetry suggests that every known particle has a corresponding particle that is unseen and also heavier. Using XENON100, physicists can test such theories.

It is also possible that there is a link between the strength of the interaction between dark and ordinary matter and the recent results of Fermilab's Tevatron, which have yielded two hints at a new elementary particle and along with it, a new type of force.

Elena Aprile, the lead researcher, is also hopeful that once a full year's worth of data is obtained from the XENON100, her team can claim to have truly detected a WIMP. Her team also plans to build an even larger underground tank containing a ton of xenon for future experiments.



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XENON100 is filled with 161 kilograms of chilled xenon and placed deep underground to detect dark matter.

Ask a scientist: One bad apple spoils the bunch?

By **HUSAIN DANISH**
Science & Technology Editor

Every day, after eating lunch at the FFC, I bring a piece of fruit back with me to the lab and give it to my boss. I figure it's the least I can do, especially with all the questions I nag him with daily. Being a perfectionist, I always take my time to look for the perfect apple to bring back.

The only problem is the FFC, more often than not, lacks the spotless apple. I can always find some blemish or soft spot that forces me to reject the apple and continue with my search. Same goes for the bananas and oranges. I am reminded of that old saying: one bad apple spoils the bunch. Well, is it true?

Many changes occur as a fruit ripens. Unripe fruit is often hard, odorless, green, sour and tasteless. The ripening process makes the fruit more appealing. Various chemical processes are initiated inside the fruit.

Chlorophyll, a green chemical that allows plants to harness the sun's energy, breaks down. In some cases, new pigments are made. Acids in the fruit that cause the sour taste decompose. Starches and pectin are converted to sugar, and small molecules are released, which give fruits their aromas. As a result, at the end of the ripening process, fruit becomes soft, sweet, fragrant and colorful.

The entire process is controlled by a group of enzymes that are made on cue. What is the cue? Surprisingly, the signal is a simple molecule called ethylene. Compared to other hormones plants produce, ethylene is an extremely simple and mundane molecule. However, this basic hydrocarbon gas with its two carbons and four hydrogens is able to cause major changes in the developing fruit.



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Ethylene gas, produced by ripening fruit, causes nearby fruits to also ripen.

The small molecule is produced by rapidly growing tissue in plants such as the tips of roots, flowers, ripening fruit and damaged tissue. Because a wound can activate ethylene production, the act of picking fruit can initiate the ripening process.

In the cells of plants, ethylene flips the switch and turns on various genes. These genes in turn make enzymes which cause fruit to ripen. Ethylene is unique in that it is the only known airborne hormone used by plants.

By controlling the production of ethylene, farmers can regulate when fruits will begin to ripen. For example, bananas can be harvested when they are still green, shipped to their destination, placed in a ripening room where there is a low concentration of ethylene in the air, and can be ripened on demand.

Refrigeration can also slow the natural process of ripening. The constant flow of air in a refrigerator prevents ethylene from accumulating, thus preventing the fruit from ripening. However, over time fruit can still rot. As a result, you get bananas that are still green on the outside and brown on the inside.

Now back to the original issue. When you damage an apple, it will start producing ethylene. Then you place that bad apple in a barrel of unripe apples.

The ethylene produced by the bad apple will begin to ripen the other apples. Because there is not much airflow in a barrel, the ethylene remains in the barrel. Over time, the apples in the barrel become overripe and spoil. Thus, we get the expression, "one bad apple spoils the bunch." Now that is some food for thought.

Demethylating proteins identified

By IAN YU
Staff Writer

Different cells in your body only need certain genes in your genetic code to be active, keeping certain genes silent through a process called methylation and activating them through a process called demethylation. Until recently, the mechanistic processes behind demethylation were unclear, and the components of this crucial action were not known.

Researchers at the Hopkins Medical School have discovered the proteins and processes involved in DNA demethylation, one of the processes essential for regulation of DNA expression. In an article published this month in *Cell*, the group, which consisted of members of the Institute for Cell Engineering at the medical school, detailed their work and results involving human kidney cells and rodent brain cells.

By controlling the expression of certain proteins in these cells, the group was able to isolate and determine the functions of specific proteins and map out their processes and how they fit together into the demethylation mechanism. One of these proteins, TET1, is a hydroxylase that specifically targets 5-methylcytosine (5mC), a specific methyl group on cytosine bases.

Through the addition of a hy-

droxyl group to these methylated cytosine residues, TET1 promotes processes catalyzed by other proteins that will ultimately lead to the demethylation of a stretch of DNA. TET1 hydroxylates 5mC bases to 5-hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC), which is then acted upon by the proteins deaminase, glycosylase and BER.

Through their actions, 5hmC bases are converted to 5-hydroxymethyluracil (5hmU) by deaminase, which are then converted to cytosine bases. Thus, the demethylation of methylated DNA along cytosine residues is completed.

The group examined the demethylation process in mouse neurons using a process called electroconvulsive stimulation, which is where an electrical signal is used to stimulate activity in neurons.

"ECS is a method to activate neurons throughout the whole brain. In a previous study, we found that ECS could lead to demethylation of two neurotrophic factor genes," Junjie Guo, a neuroscience graduate student at the Hopkins Medical School and lead author of the study, wrote in an email with *The News-Letter*. "In the current study, we asked whether TET1 could play a role mediating this process."

In addition to using ECS to elicit a response in neurons,

Guo and his colleagues relied on the overexpression and knock down of specific genes to determine what roles certain proteins played in the demethylation process. While overexpression involves a stimulation of the machinery in the cell to produce an abundance of the target protein, knock down involves inhibition of the expression of this protein to decrease the amount produced to the point where their functions can be observed.

Methylation of DNA blocks processes in the cell that read and express genes contained within specific stretches of DNA where the sequence encoded in the gene is used to produce a protein, or prevents other sequences that have regulatory roles from being read.

The demethylation process allows previously silenced DNA to become actively expressed again, which has important impacts in processes such as learning and memory as well as diseases such as cancer, neurological degeneration and psychiatric disorders. Although demethylation occurs in about five percent of human cells naturally, these events do have an important impact that is now understood better at the molecular level within the cell.

While methylation is a fairly robust way of silencing genes which are not used in certain cells once they are differentiated, demethylation is critical for precursor cells such as stem cells, which are able to differentiate into specific cells that comprise many different systems and tissues in the body.

With regards to research, Guo notes that an understanding of the demethylation mechanism has important implications in the development of stem cells for medicine. "For stem cell research, we also know dynamic regulations in the epigenome including the DNA methylome control cell differentiation/reprogramming. Knowing the mechanism means we can better control these processes," he wrote. "In particular, hydroxymethylation is most abundant in pluripotent stem cells, and has been reported to play important roles in self-renewal and differentiation of stem cells."



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Paleontologists studied the sclera rings, bony plates in the eye socket, of dinosaur fossils to determine if they were nocturnal.

Warm-blooded dinos hunted at night

Nocturnal species had larger eye sockets to see in the dark

By ERICK SUN
Staff Writer

During the age of dinosaurs, life did not end when the sun went down. In fact, it only became more dangerous.

Paleontologists have long believed that dinosaurs were mostly active during the daytime. This conjecture was based on the assumption that dinosaurs were cold-blooded and that their internal body temperature was regulated by the environment.

Scientists argued that nights were too cold during the Mesozoic era for dinosaurs to be active. However, a new study by the University of California, Davis challenges this assumption and offers new insight into the lives of dinosaurs.

Scientists studied the structure of sclera rings, a series of bony plates which support the sclera region of the eye socket, of modern animals and compared them to that of dinosaurs.

According to the study, which was published in *Science* magazine, researchers examined the sclera ring of over 160 species alive today and then compared their findings to 33 species of dinosaurs that lived throughout the Mesozoic era, which spanned from 250

million to 65 million years ago. They found that there are similarities in the sclera ring size between modern animals and dinosaurs. Through the comparison, subtle differences in size were correlated with sleeping behaviors.

The study found that nocturnal species had relatively large sclera rings, potentially to allow more light to enter for the night roamers. Species active in the day, which have much more light with which to see, had smaller sclera rings. The smaller openings reduced how much the dinosaurs had to restrict their pupils and also allowed them to see a clear and focused image at a large range of depth.

In addition, species active during both the day and night had mid-sized rings. Their eyes had both acuity and good sensitivity to light. The mid-sized rings, combined with larger eyes, allowed dinosaurs to have the best of both worlds.

From their data, researchers

were able to determine which of the studied dinosaurs were most likely active during the day and which were more active during the night. They determined that most flying animals were probably diurnal, many carnivores such as velociraptors were nocturnal and herbivores roamed the lands during both day and night.

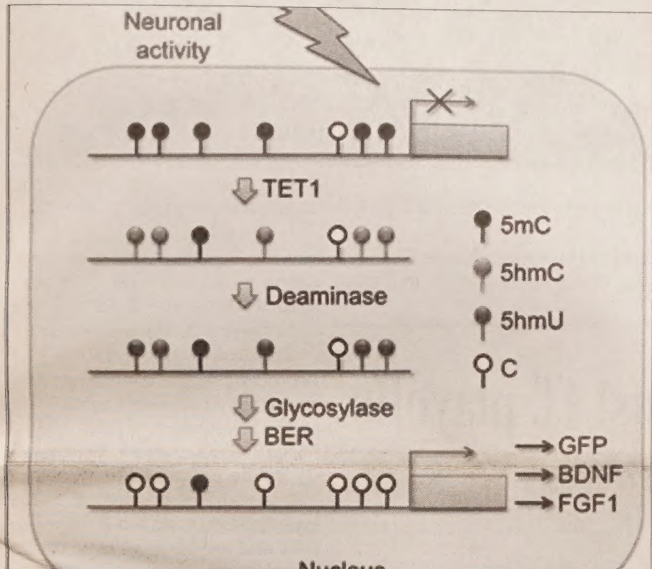
This discovery challenges the conventional wisdom that early mammals were nocturnal because dinosaurs had already taken the day shift. According to the study, predatory dinosaurs and early mammals were active during the same time of the day.

The results also suggest that predatory dinosaurs may have been warm-blooded — they regulated their internal body temperature with their internal chemistry. This has long been suspected by scientists but until now, paleontologists had lacked evidence. These new results may shed new light on the physiology of dinosaurs.



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Predatory dinosaurs may have been warm-blooded and been active during the night.



COURTESY OF WWW.CELL.COM

Hopkins researchers found that the enzyme TET1 contributed to demethylation of DNA.

Center for Epigenetics director speaks about basis of cancer

By ANN WANG
Science & Technology Editor

Last Monday, Andrew Feinberg, director of the Center for Epigenetics and chief of the Division of Molecular Medicine, spoke on the epigenetic basis of common human diseases.

Feinberg began by pointing out that while the overall genetic differences between a human and a chimpanzee are small, the genetic differences between different tissue types in the same organism are actually quite significant. Even though the DNA sequence is the same in both a human stomach and eyeball, the pattern of gene expression differs in these two organs — thanks to epigenetics.

Epigenetics involves modifications in gene expression that arise from factors other than changes in DNA sequence. Many of these changes occur in the germ cells (i.e. egg or sperm), and are stable and heritable. A combination of environment and genetics influences epigenetic modifications. A key mechanism of epigenetic modification is the addition of methyl groups to cytosine nucleotides in DNA. In general, highly methylated genes are less likely to be translated into protein and vice versa.

Feinberg and his colleagues believe that epigenetic modifications directly influence the development of diseases including cancers, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. They developed a method called CHARM, which is capable of analyzing 7 million potential methylation sites in the human genome. They are especially interested in DNA regions where the level of methylation varies between individuals or between healthy cells and diseased cells.

It was believed that the majority of methylation variation is found in CpG islands, which are stretches of DNA with an abundance of adjacent cytosine and

guanine nucleotides. However, CHARM discovered that the most dynamic methylation variation was found in the DNA just next to CpG islands, in regions the researchers dubbed "shores."

"We're interested in where the variance is and it's not where everyone had been looking before," Feinberg said.

Scientists originally believed that by studying variations in the DNA sequences between healthy and diseased individuals, they could identify which genetic variants put a person at risk for a certain disease.

However, there was a much lower correlation between DNA variation and disease than predicted. "DNA sequence variants account for one to 10 percent of the heritable cause of common disease," Feinberg said. "That doesn't mean epigenetics is the answer, but it means something else is the answer."

The researchers discovered that iPSC, or induced pluripotent stem cells, are not completely undifferentiated. They still had DNA methylation patterns resembling the differentiated cells from which they had been derived — whether fibroblasts or bone cells.

They were also able to map the epigenetic landscape of the brain, meaning that they could use a brain cell's epigenome to determine whether it had come from the hippocampus or the cerebellum, etc. This finding raises the possibility

that epigenetics could be used to study mental conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or autism.

Feinberg and his collaborators were most interested in the epigenetic changes in cancer cells. They studied the DNA methylation in shore regions of normal liver and colon cells as well as cancerous colon cells. Where normal colon cells have highly methylated shores and normal liver cells have unmethylated shores, cancerous colon cells become unmethylated like normal liver cells.

"What's really going on epigenetically is that the cancers are confused about what they are," Feinberg said.

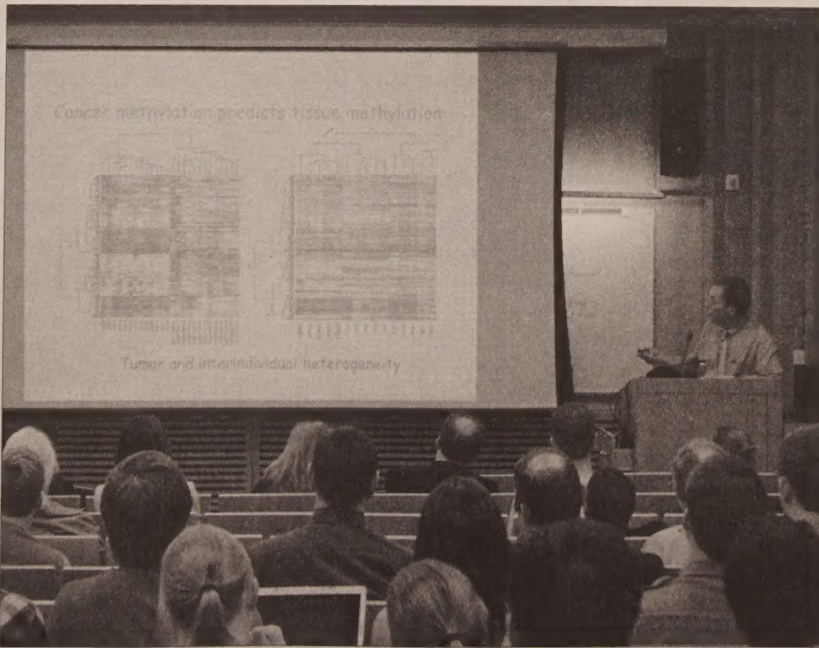
In normal tissues, methylation is distinctive between tissue types. Cancer cells, instead of having a specific methylation pattern, have very varied and indistinct patterns. According to Feinberg, "What defines the cancers is a huge degree of het-

erogeneity." In general, once they became cancerous, cells lost their tissue-specific methylation patterns and became much more randomly methylated.

Cancer cells that metastasize, or spread to other tissues, need to be genetically flexible enough to adapt to their new environment. Randomly taking off the methyl groups on DNA will cause some genes to be expressed. There is a chance these genes happen to help the cancer cell metastasize or adapt to its new environment.

Feinberg hypothesized that the flexibility in methylation displayed by cancer cells actually plays an important part in our evolution. Many of the areas in variably methylated regions, or VMRs, in the human genome include genes that are important in embryo development.

Feinberg believes that a certain degree of stochastic (or random) epigenetic change plays important roles in development and evolution.



CAROLYN HAN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Andrew Feinberg spoke about his research of how epigenetic changes might contribute to common diseases.

This Week in Science History

— **April 27, 4977 B.C.:** The universe was created, according to calculations by Johannes Kepler, a 17th century German mathematician and astronomer.

— **April 26, 1785:** Birth of John James Audubon, French-American naturalist and painter who was known for his extensive illustrations of birds in their natural habitats.

— **April 26, 1900:** Charles Richter, American geophysicist, was born. His greatest contribution was the Richter Scale, used to quantify the size of earthquakes.

— **April 25, 1953:** Watson and Crick published a paper in the journal *Nature*, describing the double helix structure of DNA.

— **April 26, 1954:** Field trials began for the Salk polio vaccine, eventually leading to eradication of the virus in most of the world.

— **April 26, 1986:** The number four reactor at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine melted down in the worst nuclear power plant accident to date.

SPORTS



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For graduating seniors, this Blue Jay mascot will be missed from all non-Hopkins sporting events.

Parting words from the Blue Jays' biggest fan of all

After four years of watching Hopkins athletics, I've seen a lot of great wins and a few tough losses. We boast great programs in just about every sport, and even some great club teams as well. I can't think of a year when we haven't dominated the Centennial Conference across the board, and even though lacrosse had one or two tough seasons since they got second in the country, they appear to be making a run at things now.

I've also had the pleasure of working in Game Operations of the Athletic Center. For those that don't know, Game Ops is the crew of people wearing the yellow event staff shirts at our home games. The job description varies depending on your duties, which include running the scoreboard and chasing foul balls among other things, but it tends to be very rewarding in that you often get on-the-field seats to the games.

As an editor for the sports section of *The News-Letter*, I've been given a great chance to meet a lot of players and to see what they can do firsthand. I remember working at the women's soccer game where the ladies faced off against Messiah in the NCAA quarterfinal match. Ultimately, Messiah came out with a 2-1 win. It was a crushing, emotional experience, not just for the players, but for the spectators like me as well.

At the same time, it was special. The team had a phenomenal season worthy of the national stage, which the ladies reached in the Elite Eight.

Even outside of Game Operations, I've gotten to see some spectacular things. When I was a freshman, I was a member of the Hopkins men's baseball team. The varsity team grabbed second place in the nation, travelling to Appleton, Wis. for the National Championship against Trinity College.

After I became one of the sports editors on *The News-Letter*, I started to become more involved with a lot of the information and stories involving each team as well as the individual athletes in our programs.

There are some incredibly talented players out there, and most of them never get as much recognition at our school as I think they ought to. Now keep it in mind that I love sports and that I love our school's athletics in particular, so I represent a fair amount of bias on the matter.

However, bias is the basis of what it means to be a passionate fan. Without it there's no trash talk, no verbal smack down, and no rivalries. You can see it in professional athletics all the way down to the high school level. Why is it

that this bias seems to be missing from our student body? Several of our teams have been dominating the Centennial Conference and winning their respective championships for the past several years.

There are times when you can tell that the rest of the conference is gunning for us more than anyone else, but the only ones who consistently answer the call are the teams themselves. We host conference championships on a regular basis, but the fan turnout is often only slightly better than the average game.

Now I should make it clear that I don't think that a love for sports is for everyone. People are entitled to choose what they like and what their interests are. It just surprises me that a school full of competitive-minded individuals tends to be so meek about athletics. There's nothing wrong with liking a sport even if you haven't played it.

I wonder why it is that the general student body often overlooks how far these teams go and how well they do. Perhaps what some people need is to experience just one crazy soccer or lacrosse game (need I mention Maryland last weekend?) to learn how much the energy can drive you to the edge of your seat and to scream for a better call from the refs.

If you are someone who doesn't get out on a Friday afternoon to watch baseball or to watch lacrosse on Saturday, try it out sometime. Get some of your friends who also don't really go out to watch games and roll over to the field. You never know just how much fun you'll have or if you'll get into it — that is, of course, until you go.

The game might turn out to be really boring to you or you might not understand a thing, but at least you tried. I came to Hopkins because I wanted to play baseball and I took my academics seriously. There is no reason the two can't mix. I love my position as a sports editor for *The News-Letter*. To me it's not a job; it's just a great way to get even more involved with a topic I've always had interest in.

So long as I'm able to watch games and have something to say about it, I'll stick with it. The quality of sports that we have here is way too good to go unnoticed, and it's my honest opinion that if people paid more attention, we could have some of the best fans in the country.

I might be deluded, but I think that anyone who's also taken the time to watch the games might share that same delusion, too. Blue Jay athletics are top-notch, whether you're talking about Division I Lacrosse, Division III Field Hockey or club volleyball. Each team has some pretty capable athletes and will be sure to impress you.

Women's Lacrosse falls short on Senior Day to Nittany Lions

By JARED FRYDMAN
Staff Writer

This past Saturday the Hopkins women's lacrosse team hosted the Penn State Nittany Lions in American Lacrosse Conference play. The meeting marked just the 10th time the teams had faced off with the Nittany Lions holding 6-3 edge all-time although Hopkins had won three of the four before Saturday.

Penn State came from behind and sparked a run that lasted the entire second half to overcome the Lady Jays by a final score of 10-7.

Hopkins fell to 9-6 overall with the loss and are just 1-3 in the conference while Penn State improved to 9-6 overall and 3-2 in the ALC.

The first half opened with the Blue Jays controlling the game, setting the tempo early with a goal by freshman midfielder Taylor D'Amore just 52 seconds into the game. D'Amore has been a force to be reckoned with all season long, stepping into a starting role as a freshman to lead the team in assists with 15 and is third in goals with 24.

Hopkins continued to expand on its lead, opening up a 4-0 lead in the first 12 minutes of the game with goals from junior attackmen Candace Rossi, Colleen McCaffrey and Rachel Ballatori.

Penn State seemed over-matched by Hopkins's intensity, and did not score their

first goal of the day until the 8:44 mark, ending a 21-minute scoreless streak.

Rossi, who is second on the team in both goals and shots with 29 and 75 respectively, refused to allow momentum to swing in the hands of the Nittany Lions, punishing the back of the net with 6:34 to play in the first half, putting the Jays up by a score of 5-1.

Unfortunately, the tides began to turn for the Lady Jays with only one minute left in the first half. The Nittany Lions forced a turnover and scored with 26 seconds left on the clock, cutting the deficit to three goals, 5-2.

Both teams went into the locker room at halftime with their work cut out for them; Hopkins had to hold off the powerful Penn State offense while the Lions had to overcome a deficit and escape the jaws of defeat.

Hopkins Head Coach Janine Tucker commented on the leadership she has seen from her team this season.

"I think our captains have done a tremendous job as our team leaders. [Senior defenseman] Brooke Lipinski, [senior midfielder] Brianna Cronin and Rachel Ballatori are all dedicated, positive, enthusiastic leaders and are bringing the rest of the team along so well," Tucker said.

Unfortunately, the second half did not go as planned, and Penn State came out of the gate with a certain ferocity, a craving for a win.

Penn State jump-started the second half right where they left off the first. Three consecutive goals were poured on the Hopkins defense within a three-minute span, turning what was a small lead into a 5-5 tie.

Suddenly, there was a spark from the Hopkins offense, and the bleak outlook abruptly became optimistic when sopho-

goals in just 40 seconds to open up a 7-5 lead.

The Blue Jay scoring attack would stop there though, and as it turned out, Penn State was just getting started. The Nittany Lions scored two goals within the ensuing two minutes to tie the game at seven goals apiece.

With 9:33 remaining in the game, Penn State took their first lead of the game. The Blue Jays defense did not hesitate to allow the Nittany Lions to pad the lead with a subsequent insurance goal.

With four minutes left in the game, the final goal was scored and Penn State took a 10-7 lead to the final whistle.

While upset about the loss, coach Tucker was proud of her troops' effort on the field.

"The team has been riding hard, working through our offenses to get high quality shots,



CAROLYN HAN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Hopkins women's lacrosse hopes to win its second ALC game this season when they travel to Ohio State.

more attackman Katie Duffey and Rossi scored back to back

playing together and communicating well," she said. "We play hard all over the field and are right there with these top teams."

The loss drops Hopkins to a 1-3 record in the conference and leaves only one game remaining on the schedule.

Saturday's game was the final home game of the season at Homewood Field, where the Blue Jays finished with a 5-3 record in 2011 and are 82-38 all time under coach Tucker.

The Lady Jays will travel to Columbus, Ohio to take on the Ohio State Buckeyes this coming Saturday.

A win at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium would place the Jays as the number four seed in the ALC Tournament and would set up a rematch with the Buckeyes in the first round of the playoffs on Thursday, May 5th, in Nashville, Tenn.

Hopkins and Ohio State have met nine times, and the Jays hold a 6-3 advantage all-time.

The Lady Jays were in a similar position heading into the Buckeye game a year ago, needing a win to finish in third place in the ALC and set up a postseason meeting with the Florida Gators.

Lead by four goals from McCaffrey a year ago, the Jays held for the win 9-8. They hope to duplicate such a performance come Saturday.

Even with a loss against Ohio State, Hopkins will still advance to the ALC playoffs, but as a sixth-seed to face off with the Nittany Lions of Penn State once again.

Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m. Good luck to the Lady Jays and their quest for the playoffs!

Lady Jays shoot by Bullets to host CC playoffs

Win 50th consecutive conference match against Gettysburg

W. TENNIS, FROM B12

At first singles, sophomore Nandita Krishnan needed the minimum of 12 games to beat Katie Taylor, running her off the court 6-0, 6-0. At second singles, Kailey Hogan continued to play beyond her age, beating Habecker resoundingly, 6-1, 6-1.

At third, sophomore Ariel Several won easily 6-0, 6-0, as did Abby Clark and junior Vanessa Charubumi at fourth and sixth, respectively.

At fifth, it was more of the same, as Pottish allowed Kelly Webster to steal only one game, as she won by a count of 6-1, 6-0.

The 50 match winning streak owned by Hopkins is a Centennial record. They are idle until this weekend's Centennial Con-

ference tournament, which they will enter as heavy favorites.

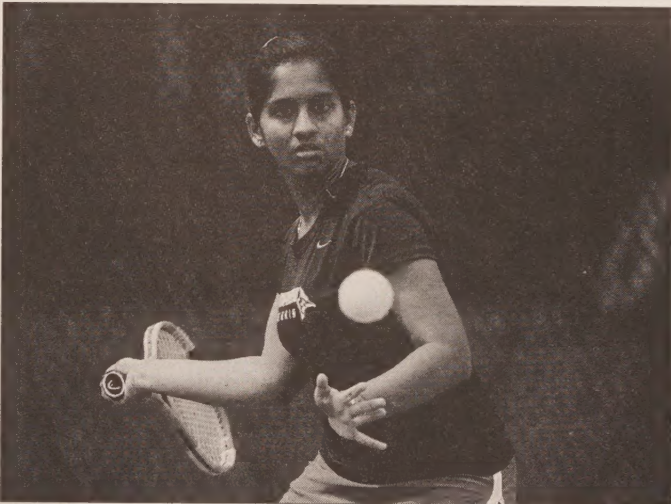
"50 consecutive wins is a huge

that possible.

I think the team is well prepared for the upcoming Centennial Conference tournament and I know we will do well. It's been a great season so far and I am excited to see all of our hard work hopefully pay off!" Boger added.

Several Hopkins players will be looking to prove themselves this season. Already dominant so far this season, Krishnan has an opportunity to make an impact at the end of her sophomore season.

The Jays will serve as the tournament's hosts, and will open play on Saturday against the winner of Muhlenberg and Haverford at 3 p.m. The finals will be on Sunday at 3 p.m. as well.



COURTESY OF THE SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE

Sophomore Nandita Krishnan has won three CC Player of the Week awards this year.

accomplishment. Five years ago or so, the program was not what it is today and that is a testament to our coaching staff as well as the players," said Boger.

"I feel honored to have been a part of it for three years so far and to have played along side the tennis alums who helped make

BLUE JAY ATHLETICS SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Thursday, April 14:

Hopkins 5,
Washington 1

Monday, April 25:

Hopkins 9,
Muhlenberg 2
Hopkins 11,
Muhlenberg 4

Tuesday, April 26:

Hopkins 16,
Washington 12

TRACK

Men

Triple Jump: 2nd Place
Shot Put: 2nd Place
5000 Meters: 10th Place

Women

3000 Meter
Steeplechase: 1st Place
Javelin: 1st Place
400 Meter
Hurdles: 4th Place

M. LACROSSE

Saturday, April 23:

Hopkins 14, Navy 5

W. TENNIS

Thursday, April 21:

Hopkins 9, Gettysburg 0

W. LACROSSE

Saturday, April 23:

Hopkins 7,
Penn State 10

M. TENNIS

Saturday, April 23:

Hopkins 7,
Washington 2

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
KYLE WHARTON - MEN'S LACROSSE

By MIKE KANEN
Sports Editor

May 26th, 2008 may always be remembered by Hopkins men's lacrosse players, fans and the like, but some may want to forget how close the Jays came to history. The fifth-seeded Blue Jays entered the National Championship game riding an eight game winning streak, which included play-off wins over Navy and top-seeded Duke.

In the title game, the Jays led third-seeded Syracuse early on, holding a 5-3 lead with just under seven minutes to play in the first half. After the intermission though, it was all Orange as Syracuse extended their lead and eventually won the Championship, 13-10.

"I don't really remember their celebration," said senior attackman Kyle Wharton, *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week. "It's not something I wanted to think about or dwell on."

Wharton was just a freshman back then, and he and senior faceoff specialist/midfielder Matt Dolente were the only rookies to see time in the game. Wharton took advantage of his opportunities, scoring one goal on two shots to give the Jays their biggest lead of the game.

"I was pretty pumped up to put us up, and we definitely thought we were going to win," Wharton said. "Hopkins always expects to be in the Final Four and play on Memorial Day every year, so although the loss was tough, our program expects to be back there every year."

However, since then, Hopkins has not been back to the Final Four. This season may be Wharton's best chance to get back to there though and this time, end

When asked if his play on Saturday night was the best of his career, Wharton immediately zeroed in on what matters most to him.



FILE PHOTO

Senior Kyle Wharton has led by example as one of three captains of a young Blue Jay team.

up on top. So far, he has done everything in his power to lead the young squad.

The 6'2" attackman has started all 12 games, scoring 22 goals including three game-winners on a team leading 80 shots and has added six assists as well.

But maybe his most impressive performance this season came this past weekend against rival Navy whom the Jays dismantled 14-5 to improve to 10-2 on the year.

Coming off his game-winning overtime goal against Maryland the weekend before, Wharton scored four goals on five shots under the bright Homewood lights on Saturday, dodging Midshipmen defenders all night. It was revenge, he says, for a tough loss last year.

"We had won 36 straight games to Navy, so losing to them last year was not great. We were extremely motivated last week having lost that game, were really focused in getting the win," he said.

such an honor especially at Hopkins with the tradition we have here," the Garnet Valley, Pa. native said. "I think the three of us try to lead by example, and the way you carry yourself trickles down all the way to the freshman. We've done so well so far, but you don't need a 'C' on your chest to lead and there's been lots of other help."

One may think that captaining a team that featured eight underclassmen in the opening day lineup is a daunting task. Wharton, though, has felt the opposite.

"It's been great to see how all the younger guys have stepped up this year, on and off the field, so it

hasn't been overly difficult for the three [captains]," he said. "The defense with [sophomore Tucker] Durkin, [sophomore Chris] Lightner, and [sophomore goalie] Pierce Bassett, the midfield and having [sophomore Zach] Palmer up front, it's been easy."

"It helps when you have co-captains like Dolente and Boland," Wharton said.

"I live with Matt, and Chris and I are extremely close, so we get along great," he said. "Matt's determined and his play really speaks volumes so he lets his play speak for itself a lot of the time. Me and Chris are a little more vocal so the three of us are a perfect mesh."

Things have really started to fall into place for Hopkins. Heading into this weekend's match-up with 18th-ranked Loyola, the Jays have won seven of their last eight and are currently ranked second in two national polls, trailing only Notre Dame who still has a challenging schedule ahead of them. With a win this weekend, a top national seed should be in sight.

Wharton, however, has one thing on his mind: the Greyhounds.

A year ago, Wharton nearly beat Loyola on his own, scoring five goals en route to a 9-6 Blue Jay win. A win, rather than a repeat personal performance, is all he wants come Saturday.

"We're going in determined and looking to get our 11th win of the season," the co-captain said. "Loyola is in our way, so we're going to come out excited and try to get a win. We want to play on Memorial Day, but we're going to take it one game at a time. We're only looking at Loyola this week."

VITAL
STATISTICS

Year: Senior
Major: Political Sci.

Attackmand and co-captain Kyle Wharton scored four goals against Navy this weekend and scored the game-winner in overtime against Maryland the weekend before.

Men's tennis breezes by Shoremen, undefeated in CC play

By ALEX SARGEAUNT
Staff Writer

Hopkins men's tennis, ranked 13th nationally and third regionally, traveled to Washington College on Saturday afternoon and completed their fifth straight unbeaten conference season with a 7-2 win.

This improves their record to 16-3 overall and 9-0 in Centennial Conference contests. It also moves them closer to 50 straight conference victories, this one marking their 47th.

The Blue Jays won five out of six singles contests that afternoon. All of their victories were won in three sets and their only defeat came when first singles senior Andrew Wang succumbed to opponent Adam Cranford in a highly contest, back-and-forth three sets.

Following the defeat, sophomore Andy Hersh defeated

Kevin Papen 7-5 then 6-1, followed by senior Casey Blythe who easily took down Kyle Lisco in straight 6-0 sets to regain control.

Freshman Jeremy Schwartz joined in on the action by defeating Aaron Ellison 6-3, 6-2. Junior Jacob Barnaby beat Joel Novick 6-4, 6-2 and freshman German Gonzalez closed out the singles matches by defeating John Menziona 6-3, then 6-2.

Hopkins was 2-1 in doubles matches. Like the singles compe-



GAURI WAGLE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Blue Jays have now gone undefeated in Centennial regular season play for five consecutive seasons.

titions, the Jays dropped the first of the doubles when Barnaby and Blythe were defeated 8-0.

Wang was able to redeem his singles defeat with a huge 8-2 win along with Hersh as

the second pair to compete. At third, Gonzalez and sophomore Jeff Kamei pulled out a grueling 9-7 victory.

The Shoremen of Washington College fell to 9-7 overall and 5-4 in conference. They are currently ranked 13th regionally.

The next time the Jays take the courts will be this weekend in the Centennial Conference Tournament as the top seed. Hopkins will host Haverford who defeated the Shoremen in the four-five seed play-in game on Wednesday. The finals will also be at Homewood and are slated for Sunday, May 1st.

The conference playoff picture has Swarthmore at second followed by Franklin & Marshall and the Fords.

Hopkins easily handled all four playoff teams, taking down Swarthmore 8-1 to begin conference play, the Diplomats 8-1 on the road and Haverford 7-2 also on the road. Swarthmore has the next best record at 12-6.

This leaves the Jays very confident as they look to win their sixth Centennial crown in the last seven years.

The Centennial crown will run through Homewood once again, as postseason play will begin on Saturday.

Following this, Hopkins will hope to host the NCAA regionals as they did a year ago.

Home runs galore give Blue Jays first place in Centennial

By ERICK SUN
Staff Writer

After falling to Lebanon Valley just days before to end a five game winning streak, the Hopkins baseball team looked to get back on track Thursday against Washington College to kick off a three game home stand.

Heading into Thursday's matchup against Washington College, the Blue Jays were tied for first place with Haverford who was facing off with the third-place Diplomats of Franklin and Marshall, giving Hopkins an opportunity to pull ahead in the standings with a Fords loss.

With a win and Fords loss, the Jays would have a clear path to host the Centennial Conference tournament this coming weekend.

With all that on the line, Hopkins put the ball in junior starting pitcher Alex Eliopoulos's hands to get a much needed win and, as usual, Eliopoulos delivered. Eliopoulos, who is coming off of a 10 win season in 2010 and was voted a pre-season All-American has been every bit as good as he was a year ago, which he says is due to the hard work he put in during the offseason.

"My goal was not to settle with last year's success, but to work harder to keep improving and do even better," the 6'6" righty said.

Aiming for his sixth win of the season, Eliopoulos started the game with five hitless innings, baffling the Shoremen hitters on his way to the win. In total, Eliopoulos struck out four batters and allowed just four hits and zero earned runs.

On the offensive, the Jays spread five runs throughout the game to provide more than enough support for their starting pitcher. With men crossing the plate in the first, second, fourth and fifth inning, Hopkins was able to build a 5-0 lead before Washington managed a single run in the sixth.

The lone run was all the Shoremen could muster as Eliopoulos's strong outing was backed up by two scoreless innings from juniors Aaron Schwartz and Sam Eagleson, who recorded the save.

Following their victory, Hopkins expected to take on Muhlenburg for a Saturday double header, but a rainy afternoon pushed the games off until Monday. However, when the two teams did hit the field, the Jays came out gunning.

Right off the bat, Hopkins put up four runs in the bottom of the first with hits from seniors Anthony Venditti and Jesse Sikorski and sophomores Jeff Lynch and Zach Small. Small had an excellent game for himself as a designated hitter, coming up with two homeruns and five runs batted in.

"It was nice to make an adjustment and start hitting the ball hard," Small said.

The power-packed first inning was followed by a strong third frame as the Jays took advantage of two Mule errors to put up four unearned runs,

which gave the Jays a commanding 8-1 lead.

The strong offensive outing was matched on the mound by their starting pitcher Eagleson. In seven superb innings, he allowed just two hits and one walk while striking out six to get the decisive victory, his fourth of the year. By game's end, Hopkins came away with a 9-2 victory lead by 10 hits.

In the second game of the doubleheader, the Blue Jays once again took it to Muhlenburg, earning an 11-4 win to sweep the Mules out of Baltimore. Hopkins got to the Muhlenberg pitchers early and often, getting hits in every inning except the fifth.

Otherwise, the Jays hammered the Mule pitchers for 14 hits and harassed the Mule defenders into six errors, which led to four runs. On the mound for Hopkins, grad student starting pitcher Matt Wiegand allowed only one run through seven innings while also striking out seven.

The star of the day though was undoubtedly Small. Riding a nine-game hit streak going into the day, Small batted an astounding .571 with three home runs and seven RBI's to extend his hit streak to 11 in leading the Hopkins offense.

Despite his success though, Small had a team first attitude after the game.

"Our team has really come around lately, and we really want to keep it rolling through to Regionals," Small said.

With their two wins on Monday, Hopkins wrapped up the Centennial Conference regular season title, earning them the number-one seed in the Conference tournament and home-field advantage all weekend.

The Jays then played their final regular season conference game on Tuesday at Washington. Hopkins quickly took an 11-1 lead in the game, a lead by six home runs, two of which were launched by sophomore outfielder Matt Ricci.

In the first inning, after an RBI single from Lynch, Ricci stepped to the plate for the first time with the bases loaded and wasted little time getting to work, knocking in the first pitch he saw well beyond the left field fence for a grand slam and his first career home run.

The Shoremen would try to creep back into the game, but the Jays continued to pile on runs, winning 16-12.

The Blue Jays hope this is only the beginning of their success. Eliopoulos believes in this team and has high hopes.

"Our expectations for the rest of the season are to win the conference tournament, win the regional tournament and win it all in Appleton, Wis. [where the Division III World Series is held]. These were our expectations at the beginning of the year and will continue to be our expectations for the rest of the season," Eliopoulos said.

Postseason play begins on Friday with one-seed Hopkins playing four-seed Ursinus to kick things off.



GAURI WAGLE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Blue Jay baseball huddles up after clinching first place in the Centennial Conference.

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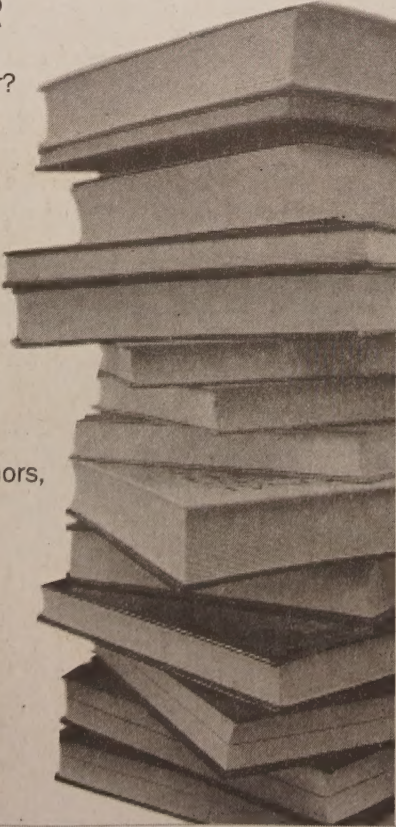
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SPORTS

Did You Know?

Stephanie Watkins's 400 meter hurdles record stood for nearly two decades before senior Anita Mikkilineni broke it by more than a second.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY
Baseball vs Ursinus, 3PM
SATURDAY
M. Tennis vs Haverford/Washington 1PM
M. Lacrosse vs Loyola 2PM
W. Tennis vs Muhlenberg/Haverford
SUNDAY
M. Tennis CC Championship 11AM
W. Tennis CC Championship 3PM

M. Lacrosse cruises past Navy, sails off with 14-5 win

By MIKE PORAMBO
Staff Writer

The third-ranked Hopkins men's lacrosse team entered halftime with a 10-0 lead and coasted to a 14-5 victory over Navy.

The team played a nearly perfect half of lacrosse, scoring at will, playing lockdown defense, scooping nearly every groundball, and dominating at the face-off X.

Top performers included sophomore attackman Zach Palmer with a goal and five assists and senior attackman Kyle Wharton, who added four goals.

With the victory, the Blue Jays extend their winning streak to five and improve to 10-2 on the year while the Midshipmen end their season at 4-9.

The Jays only needed 45 seconds to get on the board, as senior attackman Chris Boland worked off a screen to the right and fired a shot top shelf on the team's first possession. It became 2-0 six seconds later when senior face-off specialist Matt Dolente won the ensuing face-off and found grad student long-stick midfielder Ben Smith open for the goal.

Palmer's first of his six points came with 9:18 to play in the first period on an extra man opportunity as Boland found him from the top of the box.

The starting attack was dominant in the game, combining for seven goals and seven assists in the game. Palmer's first assist came on the next Hopkins goal as he found sophomore midfielder John Greeley who fired a shot past Navy goalie RJ Wickham.

Back-to-back unassisted goals by sophomore midfielder John Ranagan and Boland made it 6-0 at the end of the first quarter, a period in which the Jays thoroughly dominated, outshooting the Midshipmen 12-3, winning the groundball battle 10-3 and winning all six faceoffs.

The onslaught continued in the second half as the Jays continued to play superb lacrosse. Wharton's first goal of the day made it 7-0, receiving a pass from freshman midfielder Eric Ruhl, creating space from his defender and cranking a shot past Wickham.

Ruhl added a goal to go with his assist five minutes later on a bounce shot from about 12 yards out. Freshman midfielder Rob Guida's ninth goal of the season made it 9-0 with 2:14 to go in the half, and Wharton's second of the day 11 seconds

later on an extra man opportunity gave the Jays a 10-0 lead going into the half. Dolente was rock-solid in the first half, winning all 10 face-offs. The Jays outshot the Midshipmen in the first half 27-7.

Navy finally managed to get one past sophomore goalie Pierce Bassett with 11:37 in the third quarter, but the Jays responded with a 96-second, three-goal flurry to take a 13-1 lead.

Palmer's fourth assist of the day came with 9:43 in the third when he found Greeley, who converted on the extra-man opportunity.

Eight seconds later, a perfectly executed fast-break off the face-off led to Boland finding Wharton for his third of the day.

Wharton added his fourth goal just over a minute later, bringing his season total to 22 goals, second only to Boland's 26.

Palmer found him with a nice feed from behind the net for his fifth assist and sixth point of the game. Navy finally found some offensive flow and scored the next four goals to make it 13-5. Navy head coach Richie Meade played his seniors in the final period as they played their final game for the Midshipmen.

"I think he's an outstanding coach," said Hopkins Head Coach Dave Pietramala. "I don't think you'll find a guy who's better suited for the United States Naval Academy."

A memorable moment came at 3:22 to play in the game when Navy senior Sean Dinn scored his first career goal in his final collegiate game.

Hopkins pulled their starters as well, as many young Jays had opportunities to play. Freshman midfielder Greg Edmonds scored his first career goal as a Blue Jay to end all scoring in the game, and the Jays left Homewood Field with a 14-5 victory.

Besides the exceptional performances by Palmer and Wharton, the team received outstanding play from Boland (two goals, two assists), Greeley (two goals), and Ruhl (one goal, one assist).

Bassett was, per usual, solid in net, posting eight saves. The team held advantages in shots (41-32), saves (8-7), and ground balls (35-30). Dolente won 13 of 19 faceoffs in the game.

The Jays welcome the Loyola Greyhounds to Homewood Field for Saturday's Homecoming game. The two teams will square off starting at 2:00 p.m.

Baseball to host conference tournament for second year



Sophomore Kyle Neverman has been a force at the plate this season. He is batting .304 on the season in addition to his impeccable performance at short stop. The Blue Jays look to win the conference tournament to take home Hopkins's fifth consecutive championship. See page B11 for full coverage.

FILE PHOTO

Mikkilineni breaks 19-year-old hurdles record

By RYAN KAHN
Staff Writer

With the Centennial Conference Championships on the horizon for both the Hopkins men's and women's track teams, the two teams traveled to the Widener Invitational to tune up for the postseason this past weekend. Even though both teams were looking at the Widener Invitational as a building experience before the Championships, both saw a lot of promise and individual success.

The men were led by freshman Brendan Evans who had the top individual finish among the Blue Jays in the triple jump with a leap of 13.37 meters to collect silver. Evans' performance was the best of any Hopkins jumper this season. He was followed by junior Harper Wilson who landed at 12/76 meters for fifth place. Wilson would later go on to finish in seventh place in the high jump with 1.69 meters.

Senior Ryan Lino and junior Luke Sand had impressive outings in the shot put with respective finishes of second and fourth for the Jays. Senior Brandon Hahn dug down deep and had a great day on the track despite two tiring events, the 5000 and 1500 meters. Hahn had a 10th place finish in the 5000 meter with 15:11.19 and 15th in the 1500 with 4:03.62.

* The Jays had several solid times in the 400-meter event as well. Sophomore Rob Martin led the pack with a seventh place mark of 50.70. Freshman Collin Rozanski followed in 13th with a time of 51.47 and next in 16th place was junior Derek Hsu (51.68) followed by senior Brahma Kumar at 19th (51.93).

Freshman Tobe Madu made a name for himself in the 100 and 200 meters with 11.49 and 23.24, taking 16th and 22nd place in the events. Junior John Bartolotta wasn't far behind in the 100 meter with a 21st place finish and a time of 11.67. Martin and Kumar also participated in the 200-meter event finishing in 23rd and 31st, respectively.

Outside of individual competition, the Hopkins relay team didn't disappoint either. The 4x400 team relay finished in second place with a season-best time of 3:24.12.

Members of the men's team weren't the only ones making noise in Philadelphia; the Lady Jays had a bunch of performances that stood out as well.

Senior Anita Mikkilineni broke a 19-year-old record in the 400 meter hurdles held by Stephanie Watkins since 1992. Whereas Watkins set the record with 1:05.05, Mikkilineni beat that time by well over a second. Mikkilineni's success didn't stop there though, as she also finished fifth in the 100 meter hurdles with

ia Lucas took third place with 31.92 meters.

Sophomore Armie Monagle showed gritty performances in both the 800 and 1500-meter events. Monagle took fourth in the 800 meter and seventh in the 1500 with a Hopkins season best time of 4:48.90 while junior Cassie Cummings placed ninth in the 800, right behind Monagle, with 2:21.33.

The 400 meter was also dominated by the Jays, led by junior Alison Smith who finished in the top 10 with a Hopkins season best time of 59.97. Junior Stephanie Chung finished shortly after in 13th, followed by freshman Alexis Johnson, 20th, and sophomore Leah Sibener, 22nd.

Junior Devin Meade had a ninth place finish in the high jump with 1.47 meters and sophomores Kristin Spera and Emily Kashka tied for 12th with jumps of 1.37 meters. Sophomore Tracey Vill rounded out the day with season-best performances in the pole vault and triple jump with ninth and 10th place finishes.

Sophomore Alana Merkow placed second in the shot put with 11.66 meters while Swenson and junior Stephanie Amalfé both had season-best throws with fourth and sixth place finishes to round out the weekend. Sophomore Emily Lavell, a jumper and sprinter on the team, feels the team is ready to do something special next weekend at Conferences.

"It feels incredible to be a part of this," said Lavell. "It really raises the team's confidence when we see our hard work really pay off like this. We are so optimistic because of the hard work we put into every practice, and at the same time, we work so hard because of our positivity surrounding this season."

The Jays return to action this weekend for the Centennial Conference Championships in Allentown, PA.



FILE PHOTO

Hopkins track has shown the potential to dominate at conference

15.99. Sophomore Alexa Tzaferos also had a successful day for the Lady Jays in the hurdles with a seventh place finish in the 100 meter and a ninth place finish in the 400 meter.

Senior Elizabeth Laseter also had a great day in her event, the 3000 meter steeplechase. This marked Laseter's second individual victory of the season with a team of 11:23.06; Laseter's first victory came by way of the Penn Invitational on April 2nd. Freshmen Frances Dougherty and Lily Murphy followed Laseter's success in the steeplechase with a third and fifth place finish, respectively.

Other first place finishes for the Blue Jays came in the javelin event where freshman Emily Swenson scored first place with a season best distance of 39.24 meters while junior Oliv-

W. Tennis undefeated in regular season play

By TREVOR WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's tennis team used a 9-0 rout to defeat visiting Gettysburg College, marking the women's 50th consecutive victory in Centennial Conference play. This is the fifth year in a row that the Blue Jays, who are currently ranked ninth in the nation, will finish with an unblemished record in Centennial action.

As the regular season comes to a close, the Lady Jays own a 14-2 overall record, with a 10-0 record in conference. The loss would drop the bullets to 9-6 overall, and a meager 4-5 in conference play.

For the Jays, the day began with them sweeping the doubles matches, losing only two games in the three matches, winning by a combined total of 24-2.

The first win on the day came from the second doubles team of freshman Abby Clark and junior Courtney Boger, who came out and forcefully beat Meghan Fornshell and Laura Habecker of Gettysburg by a score of 8-1.

At first doubles, freshman Hailey Hogan and sophomore Nandita Krishnan played a flawless match against Bev Keyes and Katie Taylor, notching a 8-0 win.

The third doubles team of senior Abby Dwyer and freshman Brooke Pottish didn't skip a beat as they finished doubles play as they cruised to an 8-1 win over Holly Johnson and Kelly Webster.

Hopkins played the single matches with similar ease, winning all six matches in straight sets, completing the 9-0 thumping of the Bullets.

SEE W. TENNIS, PAGE B10

INSIDE

W. Lacrosse: Tough Loss at Penn State

The Women's lacrosse team ventured to Penn State and fought to carry last week's momentum in an effort to break even in conference.

Page B10

Athlete of the Week: Kyle Wharton

One of the three men's lacrosse captains has been a pillar on the team this season, and looks to lead his team into the playoffs.

Page B11

Blue Jay Pride: Thoughts of a Fan

An editor reflects on his experiences as a Blue Jay fan and examines the perpetual state of the Hopkins student fan base.

Page B10



VINGUYEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Blue Jays settled their loss with Navy in a strong showing with their 14-5 win.